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The Chronicles of the EAST INDIA COMPANY trading to China 1635–1834

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THE E. I. C. OWN SHIP *WATERLOO*

The Chronicles of the

EAST INDIA COMPANY

trading to CHINA

1635–1834

By HOSEA BALLOU MORSE, LL.D.
Author of *The Currency of China*, *The Gilds of China*
The Trade and Administration of China
The International Relations of the Chinese Empire

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Lying at Whampoa, flying the Hon. Company's ensign. Painted by W. J. Huggins; engraved by E. Duncan. By courtesy of Messrs. T. H. Parker, 12A Berkeley St., London, W. 1.

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From an oil painting, artist unknown, possibly a Chinese pupil of G. Chinnery, in the Collection of Sir C. P. Chater, Kt., C.M.G.

CONVENTIONAL EQUIVALENTS

CURRENCY

THE tael of currency at Canton was treated in the accounts as equivalent to 6*s*. 8*d*. (£1 = Tls. 3).

The Spanish dollar was treated in the accounts as equivalent to Tls. 0·72, the exact equivalence in weight (apart from the touch of silver) being Tls. 100 = 120·8 oz. troy.

The Spanish dollar was invoiced from 1619 to 1814 at 5*s*. per dollar (£1 = 4 dollars). From 1815 it was invoiced at the actual cost (c.i.f.) per oz. Salaries and other fixed charges at Canton were paid at the rate £100 = $416·67. Bills on the Company in London were issued at rates ranging from 4*s*. 10*d*. to 6*s*. per dollar, for bills payable 365 days after sight.

WEIGHT

The picul is 133⅓ lb. av. = 100 catties.
The catty is 1⅓ lb. av. = 16 taels.
The tael is 1⅓ oz. av.
The tael of Canton was actually 579·85 grains.

LENGTH

The *ch'ih* or 'covid' or 'cubit' of the carpenters of Canton was 14·1 English inches: used for measuring ships and cloth.

HOWQUA, ALSO KNOWN AS PUIQUA

LXXVIII

THE *EMILY* AND *TOPAZE* AFFAIRS, 1821

For the season 1821 the Select Committee was composed of Mr. J. B. Urmston (President), Mr. J. Molony, Mr. James Thomas Robarts, and Sir William Fraser, Bart. Mr. Robarts arrived and took his seat on September 8th ; Mr. Molony left for England on February 24th.

The books were opened on March 20th with the following balances :

	Tls.	Tls.
Cr. by silver in Treasury, 226,963 dollars		163,413
Tea in stock, 159 piculs		4,210
Factory account		12,015
Loan on factories		69,602
Buildings and dead stock		156,871
Anchors and medicines		1,332
British calicoes, velvets and velveteens		15,994
Shawl goods unsold		4,041
Estate of Thomas Beale		129,070
Conseequa	417,649	
Other Hong Merchants	506,999	
		924,648
		1,481,196
Dr. to Hong Merchants		77,779
		1,403,417

The shawls had been received from Bengal in December, 1819; three pairs were sold in Canton for Tls. 486, and the remainder were returned to Calcutta in March, 1821. The British calicoes (4,509 pieces) and the velvets and velveteens (416 pieces), invoiced at £5,328, were sold by auction at Canton, realizing as follows :

	Sold. Dollars.	*Commission.* Dollars.	*Duty.* Dollars.	*Net.* Dollars.	Tls.
Calicoes	9,372	469	1,876	7,027	5,059
Velveteens	3,094	154	939	2,001	1,441

showing a loss of over 60 per cent. Evidently the day of English cottons was not yet come.

During the season the Company loaded for London 21 ships of about 27,870 tons builder's measurement. Their import cargoes on Company's account realized as follows:

	Invoice cost.		*Realized.*	
	f.o.b.	*c.i.f.*	Tls.	Tls.
Woollens	£722,585	£802,213	1,928,507	
Cotton goods	£4,633	£5,042	9,807	
Lead	£11,551	£13,194	40,000	2,057,344
Tin	£8,341	£9,077	31,145	
Iron	£14,856	£18,772	47,885	
Bengal cotton (from London)	£93,916	£118,177	233,298	
Bengal cotton	S'a Rupees	1,608,027	337,208	
Bombay cotton	B'y ,,	2,534,823	684,910	1,452,987
Madras cotton	,, ,,	415,053	110,226	
Pepper	Dollars	84,000	73,890	
Camphor, Malay	,,	11,200	13,455	
		Total		3,510,331

The English cotton goods included 1,744 pieces printed calico, 1,372 pieces white cotton cloth, 860 pieces black cotton cloth, 720 pieces imitation of Canton cloth, 1,132 dozen cotton handkerchiefs, and 5,000 lb. of cotton twist, the whole being sold at a loss of 35 per cent. The Bengal raw cotton from London, 24,558 piculs, was invoiced f.o.b. at 6*s.* 9*d.* per lb., while Bengal cotton direct from Calcutta to Canton in this season was invoiced at 14 sicca rupees and 4 annas per maund, or about 4*s.* 5*d.* per lb. As will be seen from the prices realized, Canton was this year a bad market.

The receipts in the treasury were as follows:

	Dollars.	Dollars.
Assets in hand as above, Tls. 1,403,417		1,949,190
Imports on Company's Account, as above, Tls. 3,510,331		4,875,460
Bills on Bengal: at 204 S'a rupees and 30 days	142,442	
at 202 ,, ,,	1,665,414	
		1,807,856
Bills on London: at 4*s.* 8*d.* and 365 days	428,572	
at 5*s.* ,, 730 ,,	392,001	
		820,573
Certificates to commanders and officers		348,392
Bengal loans repaid		12,244
Total		9,813,715

equivalent to Tls. 7,065,875. The Company's investment for London was invoiced at Tls. 5,588,974, for St. Helena at Tls. 8,277,

and for the Cape of Good Hope at Tls. 54,857. The factory account was summarized as follows:

	Tls.	Tls.
Factory expenses	57,110	
Charges Extraordinary	2,427	
Charges on Merchandise	24,871	
		84,408
Expenses of His Majesty's Ships		1,421
		85,829

We have an entry headed 'Proportional Charges Season 1821–22' amounting to a total of Tls. 179,312; this figure it is hard to reconcile with the figure (332,803 dollars (the equivalent of Tls. 239,619) given in the export summary at the end of the chapter.

There were paid to the commanders of the Indiamen sums amounting in all to 5,280 dollars as remuneration for receiving the members of the factory on board their ships from January 7 to February 24, 1822; and during that time one million dollars belonging to the treasury were sent on the *Waterloo* for safety.

The furniture in the public rooms of the factory at Canton in April, 1822, was inventoried as follows:

		Dollars.	Dollars.
Dinner hall:	5 chandeliers	2,000	
	2 large looking-glasses	3,000	
	4 sets curtains and cornices	1,000	
	1 carpet	200	
	10 pictures	800	
	2 stoves and fire-irons	300	
	12 mahogany tables	150	
	48 ,, chairs	120	
	Lamps, sideboards, &c.	76	
			7,646
Rotunda and entrance thereto			352
Library and bookroom			1,264
Staircase, hallman's room, kitchen, &c.			938
Warehouse (including fire-engines, muskets, &c.)			4,852
Plate, plated ware, glassware, table ware			5,837
Scales and weights			1,327
Chapel furniture			600
Office furniture			300
			23,116
Furniture at Macao			2,769
			25,885

During the season there were at Canton 36 country ships under the British flag, of about 22,000 tons; and 42 American vessels of 14,702 tons, an average of 350 tons. Other flags were not represented at Whampoa, but ships under the Portuguese and Spanish flags, and one under the Austrian flag, came to Macao, and one Dutch ship, the *Middelburg*, of the previous season, passed through Macao Road on April 23rd homeward bound. The carrying trade to continental Europe was now conducted by the Americans, as shown by the following 'estimate' obtained by the English Committee from the linguists:

		To U.S.	*To Europe.*
Black tea . . .	Piculs	13,333	6,858
Green tea . . .	,,	36,668	6,300
Nankeens . . .	Pieces	1,285,000	39,000
Woven silks . . .	,,	276,614	..
Cassia, sugar, &c. . .	Piculs	10,107	1,200

In their import trade the principal items were quicksilver 2,883 piculs, ginseng 2,506 piculs, opium 437 chests, furs 158,106 skins, and sandalwood 26,932 piculs.

The main staples of trade during the season were as follows:

	Ships.		*Cotton.*	*Tea.*	*Raw Silk.*	*Woven Silk.*	*Nankeens.*
	No.	Tons.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Pieces.
English:							
Company .	21	27,870	146,990	208,192	802	..	147,000
Country .	36	22,000	194,641	9,220	5,230	60,000	405,000
American .	42	14,702	3,516	63,159	..	276,614	1,324,000
	99	64,572	345,147	280,571	6,032	336,614	1,876,000

In the tea per Company's ships are included 15,094 piculs in the private trade. The raw silk by Company's ships is all Nanking; that by country ships is 494 piculs Nanking, 2,915 piculs Canton 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quality, 1,821 piculs Canton 5th quality. The quantity of woven silks by country ships is calculated from the value, 320,102 dollars.

The season was a bad one for the sale of the Company's woollens, which the Committee attributed to the competition of imports by Americans.

The ruinous competition which the Company's Woollen investment has had to contend with, during the last few years, from the introduction of British Manufactures by Americans, has been gradually

increasing, but its injurious effects have never perhaps been more seriously felt than at present.

And the competition was not fair, in the opinion of the Committee, since the camlets in which they dealt, and on which they paid a duty of 18 dollars a piece, were also imported, even if of inferior quality, by the Americans, and passed for them at the Custom House as bombazettes at a duty of 4 dollars. By two of the American ships of the previous season were imported of English woollens:

Broadcloth	2,364 pieces (half-cloths)
Long Ells	1,522 ,,
Camlets	530 ,,
Bombazettes	10,680 ,,

In the table at the end of this chapter, imports by American ships include cotton cloth to the large value of 179,410 dollars; and at Macao in August Conseequa informed the Committee that he still had on his hands unsold 6,000 pieces of the Company's camlets of the previous season, and that

the Americans entered into a regular composition with the inferior Revenue Officers at Canton by which it was agreed that their Camlets should be entered as Cotton Goods upon which a Duty of only 2 Dollars ℔ piece is levied.

The Hong Merchants had also large quantities of broadcloth and Long Ells, and some Worleys, on their hands unsold, the cause given being the American competition; and in October the Committee felt obliged to contract for the sale of the newly arrived woollens at greatly reduced prices, compared with those obtained only one year earlier, as follows:

		Tls.	
Broadcloth,	Superfine . .	1·70 per yard	23 per cent. reduction
	Supers . .	1·30 ,,	19 ,, ,,
	Worsters . .	1·00 ,,	9 ,, ,,
	Worleys . .	10·00 per piece	23 ,, ,,

Raw cotton from India also found a falling market, due both to excessive importations and diminished demand.

It is difficult to account for the diminished demand of an article hitherto in such general estimation in China, otherwise than by attributing it to the extended cultivation of the Chinese Native Cotton, the fertility of the Crops this year and the facility with which it is now brought Coastways from the northern provinces.

To the already large consignments direct from India were added 24,558 piculs of Bengal cotton from London, which still further depressed the market, and which was sold at a price which was more than 30 per cent. below its invoiced c.i.f. cost. The direct Bengal shipments were sold at a loss of 20 per cent., and the Bombay cotton at a loss of 15 per cent.

The loss on raw cotton was directly attributed to the supply of the Chinese market by Chinese producers and traders, a tendency which would have been more marked were it not that, by the Chinese fiscal system, the domestic and the foreign trade were taxed equally. The loss on woollens was due to a conspiracy between merchants in England and Americans to circumvent the monopoly to the Company of the direct trade between England and China, and was a symptom of the impatience with which English manufacturers regarded the retention for China of the monopoly which had been abandoned for India in 1813. The prohibition to export English woollens from England was treated with the same disregard as the prohibition to import opium into China, which was nullified by a combination between the Chinese revenue authorities and the foreign private traders of all nationalities and races.

The census of foreign non-Portuguese residents at Macao, not connected with the English factory, was as follows:

Mr. Bletterman, Dutch factory.
Mr. Zeeman, ,, (died July 22nd).
Don. L. Calvo, Spanish factory.
Sir Andrew Ljungstedt, Swedish Consul.
Mr. Ullman, Swedish Consulate.
Mr. Robert Berry, British merchant, Swedish agent.
Mr. Charles Magniac, Prussian Consul.
Mr. Daniel Magniac, ,, Vice-consul.
Mr. C. Palmer, British subject as commercial agent.
Mr. Matheson ,, ,, ,, ,,
Mr. Lyall ,, ,, ,, ,,
Mr. B. C. Wilcocks, American Consul and merchant.
Mr. P. Dobell, American merchant, Russian Consul.
Mr. Brightman and several American residents.

At the end of July the Austrian ship *Caroline* from Trieste arrived at Macao, bringing Mr. Edward Watts and Mr. James

Goddard, both British subjects, with Austrian commissions, the first as Consul-General, the second as Consul. In October the Committee issued the usual notification requiring all British subjects, not especially authorized, to leave China, to which Sir W. Fraser noted his dissent on the ground that

> I cannot contemplate that the persons residing here by virtue of their foreign protections who have in a degree thrown off their allegiance should derive advantages from such conduct denied to those remaining subject to our controul and authority.

The tea purchases were made on October 30th of a total of 188,672 chests of Congou, as follows :

3,106 chests But Mid. to Middling at Tls. 30.
34,671 chests Good Ord. to But Mid. at Tls. 29.
29,259 chests of Pref. to Good Ordinary at Tls. 27.
91,156 chests Good Ordinary at Tls. 26.
30,480 chests Ordinary & Good Ord. at Tls. 24.

and on November 4th of 6,068 chests of Souchong at prices from Tls. 32 to Tls. 42.

At the close of the season the Indiaman *General Harris* was held back, and, that those on board might not lose by it, their private trade was permitted to be shipped by the *Kellie Castle*. With the exception of the privilege of the chief and second officers, the commander occupied the whole of the other officers' tonnage, having purchased their shares. The private trade was as follows :

Captain Welstead :
1,264 chests Twankay.

R. Davidson, Chief Mate :
80 chests Twankay.
30 boxes Souchong.
18 ,, Silks.

H. Kemp, Second Mate :
40 chests Twankay.
50 boxes Caper Souchong.

The junior merchants were again, all except Conseequa, nursed through the season. In May six of them appealed for the Committee's assistance to meet Government demands amounting, for the six, to Tls. 100,500 for duties and Tls. 83,500 for ' sundry contributions ' to the Consoo Fund. The Committee

decided that a check must be placed on the confident expectation of this aid, and they sent only Tls. 42,078, the amount of port charges which were properly a liability of the Company. The merchants returned to the charge and pleaded their total inability to provide the cash required for the contributions, and on June 25th the Committee paid to the merchants Tls. 73,000. At the close of the season, on April 13, 1822, the payments to the private creditors and to Puiqua and the balances still due stood as follows :

	To Creditors.	*To Puiqua.*	*Total.*	*Bal'ce due Puiqua.*
	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.
Exchin . . .	46,080	16,560	62,640	142,001
Manhop . . .	27,360	3,600	30,960	56,400
Poonequa . . .	73,779	12,000	85,779	50,000
Goqua . . .	..	50,000	50,000	..

The firm of Conseequa became involved during the season owing to the non-payment of money, 100,000 dollars, due to him by Mr. Watts, whom he had trusted ' in defiance of the earnest entreaty of Sir Theophilus Metcalfe, who strongly cautioned him against such misplaced confidence'. Conseequa was in debt to the Chinese dealers, and was heavily indebted to the Company, for the sale of whose camlets he acted as broker. His accounts for 1820 should have been settled before the end of September, 1821 ; but he had sold on credit, and had then been compelled to discount his credits to obtain ready cash, so that for 15,600 pieces, instead of about 800,000 dollars, he had received only 667,400 dollars, equivalent to Tls. 467,180. These camlets were debited to him in the books at Tls. 432,985 ; the duties, at 18 dollars a piece, were 284,940 dollars, or including premium on sycee, Tls. 215,824 ; giving a total of Tls. 648,809, and showing a loss of Tls. 181,629—if he had paid into the treasury the money which he had received from the dealers. This he had not done ; and at the close of the season, after giving him credit for his profits on his contracts with the Committee, he was indebted to the Company in the sum of Tls. 316,965. Some other liabilities brought the total to Tls. 400,000, and for this sum the other nine Hong Merchants delivered a bond undertaking to pay in five annual instalments, Howqua paying 4 shares, Mowqua and Chunqua 3 each, Poonequa, Kinqua, Manhop, Goqua, Fatqua,

and Exchin 2 each; if Puankhequa did business with the Company, he was to pay a share proportionate to the business done; and each merchant was to have shares in the tea and woollens contracts equal to his share in the bond. It was after this that, on April 17, 1822, the contracts were made for the next season:

	Congou.				*Raw*	
	Contract.	*Conditional.*	*Twankay.*	*Bohea.*	*Silk.*	*Nankeens.*
	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Piculs.	Pieces.
Puiqua . .	28,800	12,000	8,000	..	500	100,000
Mowqua . .	21,600	12,000	7,000	..	..	20,000
Chunqua .	21,600	12,000	7,000	..	..	..
Puankhequa .	21,600	12,000	7,000	..	..	..
Exchin . .	12,000	..	3,500	..	250	80,000
Manhop . .	14,400	..	3,500	..	..	..
Poonequa .	14,400	..	3,500	11,000	..	..
Goqua . .	14,400	..	3,500	..	..	..
Kinqua . .	14,400	..	3,500	..	..	..
Fatqua . .	12,000	..	3,500	..	..	..
	175,200	48,000	50,000	11,000	750	200,000

It will be observed that to Puankhequa were assigned 3 shares. On the death of the merchant called by that name, his sons withdrew from the position of Hong Merchant and requested that the Company's goodwill should be transferred to a cousin, Tinqua. The Viceroy in October, 1821, issued a mandate ordering that

> the late Puankhequa's hong is upon no consideration to be discontinued, but that his son Heemqua, in conjunction with Tinqua, will be required to conduct it as formerly.

Heemqua evidently tried his best to evade the onerous duty, but finally, on March 26th, he

> called upon the President accompanied by his relative Tinqua for the express purpose of announcing that it was his wish to transact business with the Company in the same manner his father had done.

While the factory was still at Macao, in July, Puiqua (Howqua) wrote asking to be relieved from the duty of securing the Company's ships. This was before any of the turmoil of the season.

> When Puiqua first intimated to us his wish to be relieved from acting as Security Merchant to our Ships he pleaded the great risk attending that particular charge, in consequence of his reputed opulence, rendering him an object of extortion to the Mandarines, should the Ships he secures be unfortunately involved in any trouble, and the opening such

a temptation afforded the evil disposed, to embroil those Ships in difficulties; he further assured us, he would provide a substitute from among the Hong Merchants to undertake this office for him, for such ships as might fall in succession to his lot, to whom he will give a handsome pecuniary compensation. The system of a Security Merchant being appointed to each ship, affords in reality no particular guarantee of importance to the Hon'ble Company; it is a device merely of the Chinese Government, and one which we verily believe, effectually serves the purpose of extortion, whenever the slightest irregularity is committed on board our Ships; the extortion is proportionate not to the offence, but to the wealth of the Security Merchant, and aggression and insult are more likely to be offered by the Chinese, towards those Ships whose Security Merchants are best able and most willing to pay money, in the event of such insults being repelled by our people. Should a homicide occur, the difficulty of adjustment with the Mandarines is rather enhanced than otherwise by the degree of opulence of the Security Merchant; this was exemplified in the case of Edward Sheen in 1807, when the wealth of Mowqua, who was then the most opulent Merchant in the Hong, tempted the Mandarines to proceed to greater lengths than they otherwise would have done.

Puiqua had ceased to act as Security for American ships; and the Committee, realizing the difficulties of his position, now agreed that he need no longer secure the Company's ships. When in April, 1822, after all the discussions of the season, Mowqua and his brother preferred the same request, they used the same arguments as had been used by Puiqua when he had made his request before the opening of the season; but the Committee had now come to see the unwisdom of allowing the solvent among the Hong Merchants to evade this duty.

The President considered the present application of Mowqua so very inadmissible, that he urged them not to press it; the profits arising from the Company's Trade have always been considered as an equivalent to the risks incurred by the Merchant in the Security imposed upon them by the Government. . . . If our compliance with the wishes of Puiqua are to become a precedent for those of the other Senior Merchants, rather than risk the consequences of such a total change, it may be desirable to restore Puiqua to his former footing.

In June, 1821, the ships' compradors wrote expressing their fear lest the Government charges on them, reduced in 1819 and partially restored in 1820, should be again increased in the coming season. The Committee wrote accordingly to the Hong Merchants, asking them to make such representations as would

avert the risk; and at the same time they informed the merchants that the officer at one of the Bogue forts had begun a new exaction of six dollars from the pilots for each ship entering the port, and 'has endeavoured to obtain this money by fettering, beating, and detaining the Pilots'. The merchants replied that they had been reassured by both Viceroy and Hoppo; but in March following, upon the resumption of relations which had been broken off, the compradors were troubled by inferior officers who demanded extra fees, and to enforce payment stopped the sending of supplies to the ships. Four days later, on March 11th, the Committee record that

> two days having elapsed without our obtaining the Grand Chops for the *Kellie Castle, Charles Grant* and *Waterloo,* we assembled the Merchants and forcibly called their attention to the unjustifiable delay which might be of serious moment to the Ships at the present advanced period of the Season.

The delay was due to the failure of Conseequa to pay promptly the customary fees and exactions, and the Grand Chop was issued on the 13th, the fourth day after application had been made.

On September 17th the President received dispatches from Sir Hudson Lowe, Governor at St. Helena, informing him that on May 5th Napoleon Bonaparte had died, and that 'his Body had been interred with the honors due to a General Officer of the highest rank'. The Committee at once reduced to one-half the indent for supplies—nankeen, tea, sugar, &c.—for St. Helena, in the expectation that the garrison would be reduced.

The Company's ship *Inglis*, dispatched from Canton on November 28th, grounded on December 11th on Lucepara Shoal in the Banka Strait, and was got off only after throwing overboard her guns, water, spars, and a good deal of private trade, besides 5,000 chests of tea. The loss of the guns was of small importance now that pirates were the only enemy, but it was annoying that the ship should have had to throw into the ocean tea of a prime cost of Tls. 75,000, which would have realized at the sales about £50,000.

The American ship *Emily*, 284 tons, Captain Cowpland, arrived from Baltimore on May 15th, and on September 23rd her lading was almost completed and the time of her departure was

approaching, when an incident occurred which was to bring the Americans and their trade into serious danger. The English factory were still at Macao on September 26th, waiting for their Chop boats to take them to Canton, when the news reached them that a Chinese woman had met her death by the act of a sailor on the American ship. The two were bargaining over the price of some fruit, and not coming to terms, the sailor, whose name was Francis Terranovia,

in order to get rid of her importunity and induce her to move her boat away, incautiously threw an olive Jar at her, which striking her on the head, she fell overboard and was drowned. The affair which in the first instance might have been hushed up for a very trifling sum, soon got notoriety, and the Mandarines gaining intelligence of the circumstances, an enquiry was instituted by them the result of which, after much imprudent conduct we fear on the part of the Americans, has been a trial which was a complete mockery of justice, the accused party not being allowed even to bring forward evidence on his behalf, the Mandarines did not hesitate to find him guilty, and after the farce of trying him was concluded, demanded that he should be given up to them. The Captain of the Ship stated that he could not comply with this demand, he had not the power of successfully resisting any forcible measures of the Chinese Government, but if they attempted to seize the man, he should haul down the American Flag, and abandon the ship to them.[1]

This trial was held on October 6th, and on the 15th the Committee record in their proceedings that

the Merchants are so wholly engrossed by the important discussions pending between the Govt. and the Americans, that we find the greatest difficulty in procuring their attendance,

even for a conference on so important a subject as the sale of the Company's camlets of the current season. The authorities were reluctant to take the sailor by force from his ship, and

still insist on his being delivered up to them, which the Americans have hitherto firmly resisted; we are apprehensive however that firm and united conduct cannot long be expected to subsist in a community where so many conflicting Interests are to be consulted, and whose Trade and intercourse with the Chinese is now labouring under all the evils of entire Suspension.

The authorities had followed their usual procedure. At the close of the trial on October 6th the Security Merchant, Exchin

[1] Cf. Appendix X.

(*alias* Pacqua), and the linguist attached to the ship were put in chains and carried to prison; and the supercargo of the *Emily* was threatened with arrest as a hostage for the sailor's surrender. On the one hand, the entire trade was held up; on the other, the Hong Merchants were prodigal of assurances of a fair trial and even-handed justice; and on October 24th the criminal was surrendered to the merchants, by whom he was confined, heavily chained, at the Consoo or Gild House. There on the 26th his trial was understood to have been held by the Anchasze or provincial Judge. It was also understood that the judgment was to have been referred to Peking for confirmation, but on the 28th the foreign residents were horrified to learn that Francis Terranovia had that morning been executed by strangulation on the common execution ground.[1] Mr. Urmston's opinion was expressed in his confidential report, dated November 22nd, to the Chairman of the Court of Directors:

> The unaccountable apathy and total absence of exertion manifested by the Americans at this place, throughout the whole affair, either to assist or to save the unfortunate man who has thus fallen a sacrifice to the inhumanity and the injustice of the Chinese, has excited considerable surprize and regret to the whole foreign Community in this quarter, nor has the deplorable result produced what was certainly anticipated, the slightest representation or remonstrance, either from the American Consul, or from any of his Countrymen in China, against a proceeding so summary and unjustifiable, and at once so contrary to every principle of justice and so repugnant to every feeling of humanity and mercy. This event however has completely confirmed the opinion so long entertained by those acquainted with the character of the Chinese, that no reliance whatever can ever be placed on their Professions, or on their justice, when once a Foreigner is unhappily under such circumstances, directly or indirectly, thrown in their power.

The Committee had in the previous season had a similar case in connexion with their ship *Lady Melville*, regarding which, on November 17th of the current season, they record the following note:

> In consequence of a Chinese Female having been accidently wounded by a stone thrown from the H.C. Ship *Lady Melville* last season just about the period of her dispatch by which that ship was likely to be involved in difficulties the President paid the sum of Dollars 300 to quiet the parties. . . . This sum will now be repaid to the President from our

[1] Cf. Appendix X.

Treasury and the circumstance brought to the notice of the Honble Court that an application may be made to Captain Stewart for the amount.

In the absence of evidence to the contrary it may be assumed that no further claim had been made. No claim at all was made in the case of the *Kent*. On January 22, 1822, the staff of the factory were on board the ships, and the ships were at Chuenpi, because of the affair of the *Topaze* (see p. 18), with orders that boats were not to be allowed alongside, when the master-at-arms of the *Kent* fired a musket with slugs and wounded a woman who persisted in remaining in her boat alongside for the purpose of begging. The man was disrated and sent before the mast; and the Committee considered that enough had been done. There is no record of any money having been paid, or any claim having been made.

Immediately after the settlement of the affair of the *Emily* began one of the recurring discussions on the opium trade. On November 6th the Committee were informed that Puiqua was charged with connivance in the traffic, and that the Viceroy had gone so far as to deprive him of his button. Before this, in the *Wabash* affair in 1817, he had been involved as Security Merchant for the ship, and had escaped from the charge of dealing with opium only because the authorities 'succeeded in extorting from him a most enormous fine'. In this affair the Heungshan Hien was implicated as the official in whose district the *Wabash* was anchored and under whose jurisdiction her smuggling was carried on, and he was then in imminent danger of being impeached and cashiered. This official was now, four years later, in the higher post of Kwangchow Fu; and when charges came up from Macao to Canton implicating Puiqua, he seized the opportunity for his revenge, the more readily that the merchant was a fat goose well worth plucking. The charge was preferred by a petty officer who had been accused of a serious assault upon another Chinese; the petty officer had formerly been

the medium thro' whom the local Officers of the Macao district received their fees for connivance in the Opium trade, and who thought when apprehended, that his personal impunity would be promoted by implicating the officers of Govt. in acts of public delinquency.[1]

[1] Cf. Appendix Z.

The position of the higher officials at Canton—the Viceroy, his subordinates, and his entourage—on similar occasions was always very difficult. Officials appointed ordinarily for a maximum tenure of three years, they had normally to decide whether it was more profitable for them to enforce the law, reap a harvest of confiscations, and leave a swath of ruin behind them; or whether they would do better to levy substantial fines and leave the breaches in the law unrepaired for the benefit of their successors. In the present instance the publicity of the charges forced the Viceroy's hands, and made it impossible for him to adopt any other course than to carry out the prohibitions of the law; and, once launched on the path of virtue, his investigation was thorough. Puiqua and his colleagues took a serious view of the matter, and on November 12th they pointed out

> the hazard and peril that attended the Opium trade at this Port, and further recommended that the Vessels now employed as Opium Godowns, at Whampoa, should immediately quit the river, for such was now the responsibility of the Merchants, that they should feel themselves compelled to lodge information with the Government against those Vessels, if they did not quit the River in the course of a week. Puiqua next adverted to the propriety of Bonds being given by all future Ships that may arrive, declaring that no Opium is on board, and he observed that until such an assurance was given, he conceived it impossible for the Merchants to secure any Ships in future.

Against the Committee no direct action was taken, since it was fully admitted that the Company did not deal directly in the drug; and the Committee had express orders from the Court of Directors 'never to take any part in proceedings that regarded Opium'. Direct charges were brought against four ships for bringing opium into Whampoa in contravention of the law—the American ship *Emily*, and the British country ships *Merope*, *Hooghly*, and *Eugenia*. The *Merope* and the *Hooghly* were consigned to Mr. James Matheson, and to him were consigned 470 chests of opium laden on the *Merope* and the *Eugenia*; on the *Merope* were in all 'about 700 chests of Company's [Bengal] Opium', while the *Hooghly* was declared to have brought none.

The export lading of the *Emily* was ascertained to have been shipped on Dutch account, and in fact her declared destination when she sailed on December 2nd was Batavia. Her export cargo was, therefore, allowed to remain on board; but the

decision as to her import cargo is not recorded. Of the three British ships which were charged by the authorities with having imported opium, one-half of the import cargoes already landed was declared to have been confiscated—so Mr. Matheson was informed, but, except the opium, the goods were already in the hands of the Chinese buyers; moreover they were prohibited from taking any export cargo, the goods already shipped being required to be re-landed; and the ships were ordered to leave port within five days. In answer to a letter from Mr. Matheson asking for instructions as to the course to be followed—

As we are particularly desirous to avoid being implicated in any way, in the proceedings now adopted by the Chinese Govt. for the suppression of the Opium trade, we shall be very guarded in our reply to the foregoing letter;

and they accordingly sent him a copy of the official orders which the merchants had brought to them,[1] and continued as follows:

With respect to our interference or recommendation in this affair, we beg to state to you that as the parties engaging in the Opium trade have been repeatedly warned of the prohibition that exists to its importation into China, it must rest with them to adopt such measures as they deem proper for the security of their property, being always subject to a responsibility for the consequences that may be entailed on the general trade of the British Nation with this Country. We warn you against denominating any Opium when imported into this Country Company's Opium, as an erroneous impression might be made on the minds of the Chinese Govt. detrimental to the interests of the Hon'ble Company.

Mr. Matheson ordered his ships out of the river under a Chop which allowed them to leave the port, never to return; but they went only as far as Lintin. There the *Hooghly* completed her lading; and, as the Company's licence was required for tea shipped to India, the Committee connived at the action by issuing a licence to ship tea by the (blank) country ship, to be transhipped at Lintin to the *Hooghly*. The two opium ships were still there at the end of March, five months after the first steps were taken. On March 26, 1822,

Puiqua and Mowqua waited upon the President this morning, and stated that they had learnt from a private channel that, as the two Opium Ships *Merope* and *Eugenia* were still remaining at or near Chunpee, there was a probability of some public notice being taken of

[1] Cf. Appendix Z.

them by the Viceroy; they hoped therefore that the Committee would intimate the same to the Agents of the Ships, with the view of inducing them to avert if possible any unpleasant consequences resulting from their continued stay in the immediate vicinity of the Port.

The course pursued by the authorities during the interval from December to March is indicated by the following entry:

Dec. 11. Late in the Evening Puiqua waited upon the President to inform him that the Viceroy hearing of the arrival of an American Ship had issued an order, that he in conjunction with the Merchant who was to be her Security, should proceed on board and ascertain whether she had brought any Opium, and that if he reported in the negative, he, Puiqua, should give a Bond to that effect. As we have received information of the arrival of the *Almorah* Country Ship with a portion of the Company's freighted Cotton on board, the communication now made by the Puiqua was calculated to excite much interest.

It was on the procedure thus indicated that the authorities insisted. The Americans generally consented to give to the merchants the guarantee which these demanded to enable them to give the bond required by the authorities; those which had opium on board first discharged it outside the river; those which had none, considered only their own position at the moment without regard to the national interest. The British ships were all under the control of the Committee. They refused point-blank to give any bond for the Company's ships, and indeed the Chinese authorities recognized and admitted that they carried no opium; and they ordered the supercargoes and consignees of the country ships to refuse to accede, under a threat to cancel their license to trade. The danger of giving such a guarantee was obvious; for the penalty inflicted for any act of smuggling would be regulated, not by the importance of the offence, but solely by the wealth of the Security Merchant, or by the possibility of annoyance to a foreign supercargo with whom the authorities might be at variance on other grounds. Only a week after Puiqua's last visit an act of smuggling occurred in connexion with one of the Company's ships, which were known never to carry opium. On December 19th

Poonequa called upon the President and stated that yesterday Evening some pieces of Opium were seized while conveying out of Captain Mayne's Factory in the possession of a Chinese Servant belonging to the Purser of the *Atlas*, the Opium is said to have belonged to one of the English Servants of that Ship. The Man and Opium were conveyed

to the City and the former is in confinement. Poonequa stated that he has endeavoured to settle the matter by money but that 5,000 Dollars had been refused.

On the 22nd Poonequa informed the President that he had settled the affair by a payment of 6,000 dollars, which was probably fifty times the value of the opium. Notwithstanding the refusal of the Committee, the Viceroy continued to demand the bonds ; and as late as March 5, 1822, permission was refused to discharge the import cargo of the Company's ship *Scaleby Castle* until a bond should be given that there was no opium on board. The form of bond sent was of so stringent a nature that the Committee persisted in their refusal. They represented their case in a memorial to the Viceroy, who persisted in his demand ; and continued to persist until, on receipt of a second memorial, he, by rescript of March 18th, waived the obligation for the Company's ships.

The most important event of the season was the affair of the H.M.S. *Topaze*. She arrived off Macao at such time that her arrival was known at Canton on November 10th ; and it was on the 11th that the Committee was informed of the new crusade against opium and of Puiqua's disgrace. She carried 40 guns and 300 men, and her commander was Captain Charles Richardson. Seven days after her arrival she moved to Lintin in company with H.M.S. *Curlew*. The Chinese were about this time making themselves objectionable ; and on November 29th the Committee made a protest to the Hong Merchants regarding ' an outrageous attack made on Captain Wilson Commander of the *Hythe*, while on shore near the Ship at 2nd Bar for the purpose of taking sights for his chronometer '.

On December 15th a party of seamen from the *Topaze*, on shore on the island of Lintin, were attacked by

such an overpowering and menacing force of villagers that the First Lieutenant who observed their situation from the Ship found it necessary to order away the boats manned and armed to their assistance and to fire several shot from the Frigate for their more immediate protection.

It does not appear that the round shot caused any casualties ; but the force which was landed came into collision with the mob and there were casualties on both sides, two Chinese being killed and several wounded, while of the seamen belonging to the

frigate fourteen were severely wounded. The Viceroy sent a mandate to the Hong Merchants that the English Chief was to surrender for trial the 'foreign murderers', to which Mr. Urmston replied that he had no authority over a King's ship; and Captain Richardson wrote to the Viceroy complaining of the unjustifiable attack upon his men, in reply to which the Viceroy repeated his orders, declaring that two lives had been taken, and two culprits must be surrendered. The Viceroy refused to recognize any one but the Chief of the English factory, and tried to bring pressure to bear on him by stopping all British trade. So menacing did the Chinese attitude become that, on January 7th, the Committee moved the staff and most of the treasure on board the ships, and took the ships outside the river to Chuenpi. There they remained, both sides being obstinate, until, on February 8th, the *Topaze* sailed off to Macao and thence to India, her commander leaving word that the case would be submitted to his superior officers for trial according to the law of England. The Viceroy found that he could obtain no better result, and for the moment he accepted this as a settlement. The factory then, on February 22nd, returned to Canton and the ships to Whampoa, and the interrupted trade was resumed—subject to the further delay over the opium bonds.

The volume containing all the consultations and correspondence relating to the *Topaze* is missing from the records of the India Office, and the only accounts are that contained in the Committee's report to the Governor-General, and that of Peter Auber. These are given in Appendix Y.

THE IMPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1821. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Woollens	2,678,482	..	2,678,482	598,210	..	..
Metals	166,708	26,430	193,138	271,063	..	..
Furs	..	..	..	478,824	..	..
Other Western Products	13,621 *	52,065	65,686	247,960 ‡	..	..
Western Products	2,858,811	78,495	2,937,306	1,596,057	..	4,533,363
Cotton	1,896,725	3,113,942	5,010,667	42,192	..	..
Opium	..	4,166,250	4,166,250	415,150	..	..
Sandalwood	..	35,893	35,893	269,320	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	161,740	161,740	180,084	..	..
Pepper	102,625	278,992	381,617	..	..	..
Other Eastern Produce	18,687	1,287,982	1,306,669	78,023	..	..
Eastern Produce	2,018,037	9,044,799	11,062,836	984,769	..	12,047,605
Total Goods	4,876,848	9,123,294	14,000,142	2,580,826	..	16,580,968
Silver	..	47,000	47,000	4,612,000	? 1,000,000	5,659,000
Imports, Whampoa	4,876,848	9,170,294	14,047,142	7,192,826	1,000,000	22,239,968
Trade at Macao :						
Opium	included above		..	..	4,849,050	4,849,050
Total Imports into Area	4,876,848	9,170,294	14,047,142	7,192,826	5,849,050	27,089,018

* All cotton fabrics.
‡ Including cotton fabrics, 179,410 dollars.

STATEMENT OF OPIUM IMPORTED INTO CHINA
SEASON 1821

Flag.	*To Macao.*			*To Whampoa.*			*Total.*
	Bengal. Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	*Bengal.* Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	Chests.
British ships	115	..	..	1,245	1,369	15	2,744
Portuguese	1,700	1,149	60	..	..	..	2,909
Spanish	150	..	..	..	..	..	150
American	..	..	..	..	..	437	437
	1,965	1,149	60	1,245	1,369	452	6,240
Remaining April 1822, say	200	600	50	80	300	..	1,230
Consumption April to April	1,765	549	10	1,165	1,069	452	5,010

Totals and prices in dollars per chest:

Bengal	3,210 chests,	lowest 1,650	highest 2,040
Malwa	2,394 ,,	,, 1,050	,, 1,350
Turkey	512 ,,	,, 650	,, 1,250

THE EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1821. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*					
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*	*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
Ships: Number	21	36	57	42	..	..
Tons	72,870	22,000	49,870	14,702	..	..
Exports:						
Tea	7,362,138	1,037,380	8,399,518	3,385,720	..	..
Raw Silk	398,043	1,576,955	1,974,998	..	..	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	515,764	515,764	2,500,000	..	..
Nankeens	125,062	385,564	510,626	807,000	..	..
Tutenague *	..	129,192	129,192	..	..	..
Other Commodities	92,300	2,044,618 ‡	2,136,918	159,200	..	..
Total Goods	7,977,543	5,689,473	13,667,016	6,851,920	..	20,518,936
Silver	..	480,560	480,560	..	1,300,000	1,780,560
	7,977,543	6,170,033	14,147,576	6,851,920	1,300,000	22,299,496
Disbursements:						
Port Dues, Factory Expenses, Ship Expenses	332,803 + 189,000	287,000	808,803	294,000	..	..
	521,803	287,000	808,803	294,000	..	1,102,803
Cost of Investment	8,499,346	6,457,033	14,956,379	7,145,920	1,300,000	23,402,299

* Tutenague, 9,298 piculs.

‡ Including sugar, 100,259 piculs, 746,230 dollars.

APPENDIX X

Statement of Proceedings in the Matter of the American Ship *Emily* and the Seaman Francis Terranovia

On Sunday the 6th October 1821 the day appointed for the trial of Francis Terranovia, a Seaman on board the Ship Emily of Baltimore, on a charge of having caused the death of a Chinese Woman at Whampoa the 23rd Ultimo. Present all the American Residents at Canton, except the American Consul and W. G. Ogden Esq. the supracargoes of the different Vessels then in Port with their respective Captains when the following circumstances occurred.

The Pan-yu a Magistrate presiding over the district in which Whampoa is situated, at an early hour left Canton, and with an immense retinue proceeded to the Ship Emily, on board which the trial was to take place—Upon his reaching the Deck of the Ship he addressed himself to the Americans and thro' the Linguist declared that the Ship and the property were under his protection, and any damage she might sustain he would reimburse upon a proper representation. With this declaration he advanced to the Chair assigned him and took his seat. The Hong Merchant who secured the Ship and her Linguist were then called up and after making the usual prostrations, acknowledged themselves in their respective capacities. The Pan-yu then assured us through the Linguist of his friendly disposition of his desire to avoid rather than create trouble of the sacred duty he was about to discharge and appealed to Heaven for the judgment of the motives by which himself was actuated. He then asked what defence the Americans were prepared to make for the Prisoner. It was replied our evidence can prove, that the Jar which is said to be the instrument that caused the death of the Woman was safely delivered by the accused into her hand, and that she fell overboard at the distance of Thirty Feet and upwards from the Ship Emily, that she was seen from on board the Hero of Malown, an English Ship lying near the Emily, to fall overboard while in the act of sculling her Boat, that no Jar or any such instrument was thrown at her, or caused her falling into the Water, that from the relative situation of the Boat to the Ship it was impossible to strike the woman on the side of the head in which the wound was inflicted and that the Jar could not have cut the hat in the manner in which it was cut—We declared as our belief that the Boat having been swept by the strength of the Tide some distance

from the Ship the Woman in her anxiety to gain her Station had by a misstep fallen overboard, and in the act had struck her Head against the Pivot on which the scull moves, or the sharp edge of the Boat which caused her death.

This defence we urged in a general way, and stated our ability to substantiate by evidence what we have then declared.

The Pan-yu then called for the Chinese Witnesses, the Husband of the Woman drowned, a Woman belonging to the Hoppo boat astern of the Emily and two children from 8 to 12 years of age, who gave their evidence on their knees, their heads bowed to the Deck, which evidence was not explained to us—We requested that the Woman who appeared to be the principal Witness should speak to us in English, as she understood it far better than the Linguist who from ignorance could not explain her testimony, or from the fear of offending the Pan-yu would not do it correctly. This request was refused but we were informed that the Witness saw the Jar thrown, and the Woman fall overboard in consequence of the blow.

We immediately attempted to convince the Pan-yu, that from the position of the Hoppo Boat riding astern of the Ship, it was impossible for this woman to have seen any part of the transaction and that she had declared before several Captains and others, her total ignorance of the affair until her attention had been attracted by the cries of a Child, when she saw a hat floating on the Surface of the Water, and a man sculling anxiously towards it. We urged that as she had given contradictory Statements her evidence should be wholly dispensed with. The instruments of Torture were then produced but not applied, and the woman adhering to her former statement was excused by the Pan-yu, saying she had spoken differently to gain the favor of the Americans but she now spoke truth, if not he assured us Heaven would punish her. We then proved that the children produced as Witnesses had seen no part of the Affair, as they were brought from the Shore some time after it had occurred. To this nor to anything we urged would the Pan-yu listen, but invariably silenced both Howqua and the Linguist when they were explaining our Statements—He said he had himself seen the Woman and the Jar, He believed the Man guilty, if he had judged wrongfully it was Heaven's business, and arose in a passion from his chair as if the trial was concluded. We then complained to the Hong Merchants of his overbearing shameful conduct, and charged them with a breach of their engagement, as they promised us a fair trial, but had not heard our Witnesses. The Pan-yu at length was prevailed upon by Howqua to resume his chair, and an American Seaman was brought forward to prove that the Jar was handed into the Woman's hand, but the Judge

seemed determined not to hear him, and after about half an hour spent in the utmost confusion he left the deck of the Emily exhibiting every mark of rage, and repaired on board his own Boat, leaving the Hong Merchants and Linguists on board the Emily—Thus concluded this mockery of justice, when the Chinese had agreed to receive foreign evidence upon the same footing, as their own, and that equal confidence should be reposed in them—After the Pan-yu had left the Ship the Hong Merchants in his name demanded the Prisoner. We expressed our dissatisfaction in the most pointed manner and accused them of a breach of faith—reminded them of their promises and engagements, and expressed our conviction that the man was prejudged, and that this trial was only a feint to obtain possession of his Person—We notwithstanding acknowledged ourselves amenable to the Laws of the Country, and declared no resistance would be made to the enforcement of the Pan-yu orders, but as they had violated every principal of honor and good faith, and as a Contract violated by one party is not binding on the other we declined surrendering the Man, except to force, and with the man we would strike the Flag and surrender the Ship. We are now in your power, the Ship is surrounded by War Boats, we are in number only about 40 you have as many hundred, take the Man, but the Flag shall never wave over the Head of those it cannot protect against injustice. This circumstance had such an effect on the Pan-yu that he refused to take possession of the Man, if striking the Flag was to be the consequence ; the Hong Merchants however made many attempts to overreach us in their negotiation, and endeavoured to persuade us he should have a New Trial at Canton, but experience had taught us Wisdom, and we knew what faith ought to be placed in the word of a Hong Merchant, and were resolute. When the Pan-yu discovered our determination not tacitly to submit to his unreasonable remands he sent on board the Ship and put the Linguist in Chains and soon after the security Merchant of the Ship (Pacqua) suffered the same disgrace. Shortly after the Pan-yu left the Ship and ordered the Hong Merchants to follow him when he would lay a Statement of the Case before the Viceroy. We were at first greatly at a loss in accounting for the Strange and unheard of violation of every Article agreed upon by the Committee and the Hong Merchants on the part of the Pan-yu—but we have since discovered that the Hong Merchants relying upon the pliant and accomodating disposition of the Americans and their own cunning to get possession of the Man under almost any circumstances, deceived both the Pan-yu and the Committee, and as the organ of communication delivered false messages and reports to both parties.

October 27th.

The trial of the unfortunate Seaman took place yesterday at the Consoo, before the Leang-ting and Pan-yu. Contrary to the established practice of the Chinese Code, which directs that all Courts of Justice shall be open and accessible to every body, we find in the present instance the doors were closed, and admission expressly refused to many Europeans who wished to be present—this unheard of Act of injustice followed as a natural consequence to the numberless concessions made to the Gov^{t} by the Americans. We know not what took place yesterday, but we are informed the An-cho-fu or Chief criminal Judge of the Province has been this morning to the Consoo, and the doors being closed and guarded as before, he proceeded to examine the Sailor, who it is said has confessed to have thrown the Jar at the Woman, not with any intention of hurting, but merely meaning to intimidate, and thus drive her away from the Ship : We know not whether this confession has been obtained from the Man under a pretence, if he acknowledge the act, of getting him off, or whether it has been extracted from him by threats of torture, but by whatever means it has been obtained from him, there appears no doubt of his having signed a written acknowledgement of having thrown the Jar, and the general belief now is, that this confession and the whole of the proceedings will be referred to Peking for the final judgment of the Emperor.

October 28th.

Our feelings have been greatly shocked this morning by the intelligence of the execution of the wretched Man whose trial terminated yesterday. We little thought the Government would have proceeded to such a summary measure, it seems however that at five Oclock this Morning he was led to the usual place of execution, where some years ago several Chinese criminals suffered for an outrageous attack upon the American Ship Wabash, and there underwent his Execution by strangulation—

Thus has terminated an Affair which since the history of the Gunner in 1784 stands without a parallel in the Annals of European intercourse with this people.

As for the Americans who have thus barbarously abandoned a man serving under their Flag to the sanguinary Laws of this Empire without an endeavour to obtain common justice for him, their conduct deserves to be held in eternal execration by every Moral, honorable and feeling Mind.

With respect to Europeans in general who frequent China we apprehend this cruel event will long be called to their remembrance and cited as a precedent by this Gov^{t} on every occasion that they may be unfortunately involved in such unpleasant discussion

with them. Our late experience and the extended and encreasing intercourse between Europeans and Chinese makes their recurrence more than probable, and should it be our lot again to be involved in a dispute of this nature with the Gov^{t} we may now look forward to more than ordinary difficulty in arranging it—

We consider that the conduct of the Americans in this disgraceful Affair will tend in a great degree to diminish that feeling of caution and apprehension which in similar cases has invariably had its influence with the Chinese in their proceedings towards the English and Europeans in general.

APPENDIX Y

Report on the Affair of H.M.S. Topaze

To His Excellency the Most Noble
Francis Marquis Hastings, K.G. and K.C.B.
Governor-General in Council,
Fort William.

My Lord,

We have refrained from addressing your Lordship's Government on the Subject of our embarrassments with the Chinese Local Authorities at Canton, until we could have the satisfaction of communicating to your Lordship an account of their favorable termination which we have now great pleasure in stating has been effected by the Viceroy's Edict of the 20th inst., whereby he has removed the suspension of the Honble Company's Trade and invited our return to Canton—

Your Lordship may probably ere this have been informed from other sources of the difficulties under which the Honble Company's Trade at this Port has been involved, We consider it our duty briefly to recapitulate to your Lordship the causes which have occasioned its suspension, and the vexatious and harrassing discussions they have produced.

On the 15th December last a party of seamen belonging to H.M.Ship Topaze being on shore at Lintin an island situated about midway between Macao and the river of Canton and which the Canton Authorities have officially notified as an allowed anchoring place to His Majesty's Ships, were suddenly attacked by such an overpowering and menacing force that the First Lieutenant who observed their situation from the Ship found it necessary to order away the boats manned and armed to their Assistance and to fire several Shots from the Frigate for their more immediate protection.

4. Altho these measures had the effect of causing the Chinese

to desist in their unwarrantable attack upon the Frigates people, it was not before the party sent on shore to the assistance of their comrades became hostilely engaged with the Natives two of whom were killed and several wounded while 14 men belonging to the Frigate were also severally (*sic*) wounded.

5. The cause of the above unjustifiable attack is supposed to have originated from the circumstance of the officer attending the Men of the Topaze having destroyed two jars of Liquor which had been buried in the sand by the Chinese for the Seamen, and which was revenged by the former in the manner above stated.

6. It may be unnecessary for us to inform Your Lordship that in all cases of Homicide in China Life for Life is required, the most anxious and embarrassing discussions invariably ensue, and where Foreigners are concerned, the most arbitrary expedients are resorted to by the Local Government to enforce the execution of the Laws of the Empire.

7. On a recent occasion wherein the Americans at this Port were concerned in the death of a Chinese, the Government insisted and finally succeeded in obtaining the surrender of the man who was stated to have been the Offender (a Seaman of one of their Ships) who having undergone the ceremony of a Mock trial before the Chief Criminal Judge of the Province was most unjustly condemned and strangled at Canton in November last.

8. We are induced to believe that the fatal issue of this disgraceful transaction has had a considerable effect on the Minds of the Chinese Authorities in our recent discussions with them, and has induced a supposition that we should finally accede to their unjust demands as easily as the Americans had done.

9. Captain Richardson lost no time after receiving the report from his first Lieutenant of the affair at Lintin, in laying the same before the Viceroy of Canton in the shape of an Address calling upon that Mandarin for redress, and requesting that an Officer of Government might be dispatched to Lintin to investigate the circumstances that led to the attack of the Frigate's people.

10. The Chinese Natives of Lintin also lodged their complaints with Government, and when it became known that two Chinese had actually been killed, the Viceroy instantly suspended the Company's Trade and required the surrender of the Men who he terms the ' Foreign Murderers '.

11. In our intercourse with this Government it has always been our anxious desire to seperate the concerns of His Majesty's from those of the Company's Officers, and the former being in no way subject to our controul, it is of course impossible for us to be in any way responsible for their Acts.

12. On this principle therefore we addressed the Viceroy pointing out the hardship of suspending the Company's Trade,

and distinctly asserting the utter impossibility of our complying with his demands.

13. The Chinese Government however fully appreciating the hold they possessed over His Majesty's Ship in the suspension of the Honble Company's Trade, persisted in considering us responsible for the aggression at Lintin, and declining to pay any attention to Captain Richardsons representations, refused to negociate with any other Authority than the Company's Representatives.

14. It being totally impossible for us to comply with the Viceroy's demands (even supposing them to be just) and further intercourse with Captain Richardson and the Viceroy being thus cut off—the Lintin affair for a considerable time became the subject of insulting and angry communications and latterly occasioned Edicts threatening the personal safety of the Honble Company's Representatives in the event of a continued non compliance with their demands.

15. In this state of affairs and all prospect of adjustment being at an end, we caused the Honble Company's Ships to prepare for Sea, applied for permission to Ship our Treasure and finally determined to embark the Factory considering that by so doing and evincing afterwards a firm determination to withdraw altogether from China unless our Persons and Trade were relieved from the unjust imposition of responsibility, the arbitrary proceedings of the Viceroy might be checked.

16. Accordingly on the 11th January last we embarked with the whole of the Factory on board the Company's Ships having previously given two days Public Notice recommending all British Subjects to quit Canton.

17. The measure of removing the Factory had the effect of inducing the Viceroy to relinquish the threat he had made of our personal responsibility on account of the Lintin affair, but the Honble Company's Trade still continued suspended until we should induce Captain Richardson to deliver up the ' Foreign Murderers '.

18. Affairs remained in this State (interrupted only by a series of the most unsatisfactory communications and the recommendation of a variety of expedients on the part of the Chinese to terminate our difficulties the whole of which after we had consented and adopted failed) until the 3rd inst., when the Chinese Government at length consented to depute two Officers of Government to proceed on board His Majesty's Ship Topaze and investigate the Lintin Affair.

19. At this interview Captain Richardson gave his statement of that affair which fully justified the conduct of the frigates people and the Mandarines appearing satisfied he further informed

them that it was his determination speedily to return to India, and conformably with this assurance the Topaze sailed from China on the 8th inst.

20. The Viceroy finding every endeavour on his part to obtain the delivery of the ' Foreign Murderers ' fruitless, we were given to understand that the departure of His Majesty's Ship was a measure more likely to bring about a termination of our difficulties than any other that could be adopted—immediately therefore on her quitting China we addressed a Letter to the Hong Merchants stating that circumstance for the information of Government.

21. In that Letter we quoted the words made use of by Capt. Richardson in two of his former Addresses to the Viceroy, Wherein he stated it to be his intention now that the Mandarines had fully enquired into the Lintin Affair to proceed to Sea and rejoin Sir Henry Blackwood, and that the Lintin Affair being beyond his Management, it would be represented to His Majesty's Government, and investigated according to the Laws of the Land: We further added that as the Topaze was now actually gone away it was impossible for us to give any further explanation to Government upon the Subject, but that if the Viceroy would remove the suspension of the Honble Company's Trade, we should be willing to return to Canton and resume our Commercial intercourse.

22. It affords us great satisfaction to inform your Lordship that on the 22nd inst. we received an Edict from the Viceroy wherein that Officer publicly directs the suspension of the Honble Company's Trade to be removed, and invited us to return to our Factory to conduct our Commerce as usual.

23. We accordingly quitted Chunpee on the 24th instant, and re-entering the river with the Honble Company's Ships arrived at Canton on the 25th inst.

24. We have thus laid before your Lordship a brief outline of the principle circumstances connected with our discussion with the local Authorities of Canton, and although they have been unparalled (*sic*) in Anxiety and difficulty we have great satisfaction in reflecting that they have been brought to a favorable close, without any compromise of the honor of the British Nation, or any unnecessary sacrifice of the valuable interests entrusted to our charge.

We have the honor to remain
My Lord
Your Lordships Most Obed.
Humble Servants
Signed by the Committee.

Canton
27th Feb. 1822.

ACCOUNT EXTRACTED FROM *China, an Outline of its Government, Laws and Policy.* BY PETER AUBER

At the commencement of this year (1822) the Select Committee were involved in serious discussions with the local authorities arising out of the death of two Chinese, occasioned by the firing from his Majesty's ship Topaze at Lintin in the month of December (1821). The barge of that frigate had been dispatched to the island of Lintin for water, and also to enable the seamen to wash their clothes. Whilst engaged on shore for these purposes on the 15th December, they were attacked by a large body of Chinese armed with clubs and bamboo poles with spears at the end, wounding six men severely and bruising eight more. In order to effect the re-embarkation of the seamen, the officer in command of the frigate fired some round shot, and sent the two cutters, manned and armed with marines, from the ship to protect the barge.

Captain Richardson reported this event to the Select Committee, and having addressed a letter to the viceroy representing the circumstances, and calling upon him to punish the delinquents requested the Committee to allow Dr. Morrison to translate it into Chinese; which they did, and it was ultimately presented through the aid of some of the officers of the Indiamen, at the city gates, on the 19th December.

On the following day the Hong merchants waited on the Committee with the letter unopened, to ascertain whether it was really from Captain Richardson. On receiving an assurance to that effect they took it to the viceroy, by whom it was received and who intimated his intention to depute a person to Lintin to investigate the affair.

Captain Richardson declined to accede to a suggestion of the merchants, that the wounded should be sent on shore to be examined; he had no objection to a mandarin going on board the frigate, but would not suffer any official examination on board the King's ship.

On the 22nd, Captain Richardson left Canton for Lintin. On that day the Committee were informed that the Whampoa magistrate would proceed to Lintin to examine into the affair, and that if the men from the Topaze were not sent on shore, and if Captain Richardson departed before the affair was settled, he should hold the chief of the nation responsible. The Committee having been solicited by the merchants to allow the viceroy's answers to Captain Richardson to be sent through them, declared it to be inadmissible. The viceroy stopped the trade, and two edicts were issued adverting to the death of the Chinese, in one of which was the following passages:

'Now the men of war of the said nation are originally established to protect and convey merchandize. If it be not on account of trade, why do the said nation's ships of war come hither without any cause? The said chief in making the men of war and the trade two concerns, talks very absurdly.'

'The foreigners of the said nation have heretofore had occasional affairs with the natives, and the usage has always been to command the Hong merchants to order the chief what to do. In the thirteenth year of Kea-king, the said nation's men of war made a pretext of protecting the Portuguese and came to Macao. That affair more than the present had nothing to do with the commerce; yet then the orders were issued to the chief, requiring him to enforce their departure. As the said chief remains at Canton to manage the affairs of the said country, there is no affair that he should not manage. How can he, in consequence of the man of war having killed a native, make up pretext and push the affair from him? It is very highly improper.'

'Heretofore the governors have never had official correspondence with the naval officer of the said nation. On this occasion, as his representation said, natives had wounded fourteen Englishmen, I therefore deputed an officer to take with him the Hong merchants and the linguist and go to Lintin, and take an inquest of foreigners who were wounded, and prosecute. If the said man of war really had any men who had received wounds, it was incumbent on her to obey my orders and deliver them up, and wait till an inquest was taken, and proof being obtained, the matter might be examined into and justly prosecuted; but abruptly to request the said deputed officer to go on board to hold an inquest was not only a violation of the forms of government, but a thing impossible to be done; and then to make this a cause of obstinate resistance, excites a suspicion that the tale of fourteen men being wounded was for the most part not true.'

Orders were given by the viceroy to prevent the Topaze from advancing higher up the river; and an edict was issued, declaring that if the cruizer went away before the affair was settled, the nation's chief and the Hong merchants should be responsible.

The merchant Chunqua, in an interview with the president, suggested that if the Pan Yu were allowed to go on board the Topaze and examine the wounded men, the difficulties would soon be got over. This was made known to Captain Richardson, who consented to receive any person on board with civility, but would not allow of any judicial examination.

An attempt was afterwards made by the merchants, under the declared order of the viceroy, to distribute a copy of the edict amongst the commanders in order to separate them from the Committee. The commanders returned the edict to the merchants

with a declaration, ' that they were entirely under the orders of the Select Committee of the Honourable Company's affairs, and that consequently they were not authorized in holding any correspondence with, or receiving communications of any kind from the Chinese government'.

The Select Committee, in consequence of the stoppage of the trade, caused the Company's treasure to be removed from Canton to Whampoa.

The Topaze having moved from Lintin to Macao, an edict was issued by the viceroy, declaring that he held the chief responsible. The Committee stated that they had no control over ships of war, and requested the viceroy to order some able officer to proceed to Captain Richardson.

On the 5th January Dr. Morrison stated to the president, that he had learnt from Chunqua, one of the merchants, that the viceroy had ordered the records of the hoppo and other officers to be searched for everything concerning the English trade, and that the case of the gunner in 1784 was pointed out as a precedent, when, he added, ' the military came out to the factories, and a man was delivered up, carried into the city, and after a certain time was strangled'.

Measures were accordingly taken, in communication with Captain Richardson, for the immediate removal of every Englishman from Canton, with the view to ulterior measures.

On the 7th January the merchants waited upon the Committee, and represented the necessity of a judicial proceeding, stating, with reference to the Committee's address to the viceroy, that that officer had in a dispassionate, though firm manner, lamented greatly the necessity imposed upon him of enforcing the laws, but at the same time stated, that he felt that duty so imperative that he could on no account abandon it.

The Committee, in reference to the circumstances as they then stood, recorded the following remarks :

' Thus we see our situation clearly made responsible for the acts of between two and three thousand individuals who are daily coming in contact with the lowest of the Chinese, and exposed to assaults so wanton, and often so barbarous, as well as to robberies so extensive, that self-defence imposes upon them the necessity of attacking their assailants in a manner from whence death must often ensue. A great and important commerce is instantly suspended, whole fleets at times detained, ourselves liable to seizure, and to be the medium of surrendering a man to death whose crime is only self-defence or obedience to orders, or else to lend ourselves to the most detestable falsehoods, in order to support a fabricated statement which may save the credit of the officers of the Chinese government.

'Can the Honourable Company wish their servants and their trade to remain in this degraded, this dangerous situation? Will the British government expect that the captain of his Majesty's ship is upon this occasion to sacrifice every feeling of honour and humanity?

'The captain of his Majesty's ship has in the most decided terms stated, that he never will surrender any of his people to the justice of the Chinese; and as there is no precedent on record of an honourable adjustment of a case of homicide, we have no ground upon which to remonstrate with his Majesty's officers upon the present occasion.

'We shall briefly recapitulate the cases of homicide noted in our records.

'In 1780, a French sailor who killed a Portuguese in self-defence was strangled without any form of trial.

'In 1784, the gunner who, in obedience to orders, fired a gun on the occasion of a ship saluting, was put to death. The surrender of this man is considered to have inflicted indelible disgrace upon all parties concerned.

'In 1800, the centinel on the forecastle of his Majesty's schooner Providence was charged with the intended murder of a Chinese, whom in obedience to orders he fired at whilst attempting to cut the schooner's cable. The most serious negociations ensued, which were terminated by the wounded man surviving for a period of more than forty days, although he died shortly afterwards.

'In 1806, Edward Sheen, against whom not the shadow of proof existed, was saved by the Chinese officers inventing a most flagrant falsehood as to the manner in which the deceased person came by his death. The form of public trial was however gone through, and it must not be forgotten that a most treacherous attempt was made to seize Sheen's person, in violation of the most positive stipulations in writing to the contrary.

'In 1810, an accusation was brought against the English for the murder of a Chinese in the street adjoining our factory. Chinese witnesses attempted to prove the identity of the men and failed. The form of trial was gone through. A written assurance was given that if the men could be found they should be punished; which assurances caused a renewal of the discussions at the close of the year 1811. In both the foregoing instances whole fleets were detained when on the point of sailing.

'In 1820, the fifth mate of the Winchelsea having absconded, the charge was got rid of by a most unworthy subterfuge, to which, for the sake of the trade, we were induced to lend ourselves. The Chinese laws will not admit the possibility of a magistrate suffering a criminal to escape; and hence, if the

identical culprit is not forthcoming, the danger that results to those whom the Chinese, in order to screen themselves, hold as responsible.

'In 1821, an unfortunate occurrence from which the death of a woman was likely to have ensued, in which the ship Lady Melville was implicated, was settled, as innumerable others have been, by pecuniary inducements to the relations of the deceased not to lodge complaints with the officers of government.

'A few months ago Terranovia, a Sicilian belonging to an American ship, charged with throwing a jar at a woman, which is said to have struck her on the head and to have caused her to fall overboard from her boat, was strangled. He was first examined on board ship, not allowed to call any witnesses, again tried at a commercial hall in the suburbs of Canton, the doors being closed, and not a foreigner of any country allowed to enter. His execution took place within forty-eight hours. It was conducted with illegal secrecy. The report to the Emperor falsified the material facts both of proof and mode of conducting the trial.

'The frequent recurrence of our present difficulties must be expected, until some change takes place in the footing upon which our intercourse with the Chinese is carried on. The contempt of foreigners, engendered and fostered by the abusive terms in which they are spoken of by the officers of government, the want of police regulation, and the defenceless state in which we are placed by the difficulty of access to the magistrates, leaves us exposed to assaults of all descriptions, and if self-defence is not received as a plea in cases of homicide, no individual can for one instant be considered safe.

'Whatever may be the distinctions in the Chinese written laws, we see that in the practice, as far as respects Europeans, no discrimination is shown, and on the present occasion we see that the plea of self-defence is decidedly rejected.

'The great facility which foreigners have of escaping in ships, and the liability of the whole trade to suspension therefrom, is a consideration of such momentous weight, that we trust that the Honourable Court will use every effort, by negotiation with the Chinese and by laws enacted at home, to put the cases of homicide on such a footing as shall prevent embarrassment to the trade.'

Captain Richardson requested the Select Committee to convey another letter from him to the viceroy, if another opportunity offered through the merchants. To this the Committee assented. The letter was, however, returned by the viceroy unopened. It appears that the Committee had permitted the letter to be opened in their presence by the merchants, who had represented that it must be translated. Dr. Morrison being requested to

translate it into Chinese declined, upon the ground that the letter itself contained expressions calculated to exasperate the Chinese authorities, and that if the Committee once became parties to it they would abandon the ground they originally took, of refraining from all interference in matters relating to ships of war.

These arguments appeared conclusive to the Committee, who admitted that they were off their guard, when they allowed the seal to be broken, more especially as Puiqua had, previously to his breaking the seal, privately intimated to the president (he omitting to state it to the other members of the Committee) the viceroy's refusal to receive any communication from Captain Richardson except through the Committee and the merchants.

In consequence of the edicts holding the Select Committee responsible for the delivering up of the murderers, they resolved, on the 10th January, to embark on board the Company's ships for Whampoa, and ultimately to proceed with the ships out of the Canton river. At the same time they addressed a letter to the viceroy, adverting to the trade having been stopped sixteen days ; stating, that they had no control over his Majesty's ships, but as they are held responsible they have accordingly determined to quit China.

The viceroy, in reply to the commander's application to ship goods, stated that he would not permit them to ship so much as a ' thread of silk or the down of a plant ' until the foreign murderers were delivered up by the chief.

The ships dropped down to the second bar, and the Committee suggested to Captain Richardson the expediency of his proceeding to Chunpee. On the same day the merchants came to the Committee at Whampoa, and stated that the frigate having departed, the viceroy seemed to believe their assertion, that they had no control over a ship of war. An edict was issued on the 13th removing the threat of personal responsibility, but holding it over the Company's trade, in the event of the foreign murderers not being given up for judgment.

This was declined by the Committee, under a conviction that the discussions would be renewed immediately on their reaching Canton ; and they addressed the viceroy with reference to the edict, and pointed out the difference between the act of wilfully killing a man, and that of death being occasioned by an individual in defence of his own life, when first attacked, as was the case in the affair at Lintin ; and as the trade was rendered still liable, they solicited permission for their ships to pass the Bogue.

Upon this representation another edict was issued, in which the viceroy's permission for the reopening of the trade was again adverted to, but at the same time the necessity that a life should be forfeited, or paid as the penalty, was pointed out.

The viceroy added, ' if the Committee voluntarily renounce their commerce, he would not by force detain them, but stated that it was perfectly optional for them to go out of the Bogue, and that he had given orders that they should not be fired upon '.

The Committee informed the merchants, that they saw no alternative, but that of retiring altogether from China. They sent at the same time a copy of the edict to Captain Richardson, and acquainted him that if he had any further communication to make, it should be forwarded to the Chinese authorities, suggesting at the same time, at the instance of the merchants, a memorandum of what they conceived might satisfy the Chinese, viz.

' That the affair at Lintin was indeed one of importance, and in deciding on it I cannot be master ; but on my return to my own country, it will be reported to my sovereign, that it (or the parties concerned) may be prosecuted according to law, or (more strictly rendered) that according to the laws [1] of the land, it may be investigated and managed.' [2]

To this Captain Richardson assented.

The merchants requested that the words ' we will trouble you to take this and communicate on it the ideas in a statement to the viceroy ', should be added in the communication from the Select Committee to them. The president coincided in the proposition ; but Mr. Molony and Sir William Fraser dissented, because they considered it would at once mix them up in the affair, which they had hitherto studiously avoided.

The merchants represented the impossibility of presenting a letter but from the Select Committee. Mr. Urmston urged the expediency of the Committee addressing the viceroy, and after some discussion Mr. Molony and Sir William Fraser consented to that course, and an address was accordingly prepared in the following terms :

' Although this affair ought not to pass through the chief and Committee, we have obeyed your commands, and have asked the naval captain how those men-of-war's men who at Lintin caused the death of persons will be treated.

' The captain said, that the affair at Lintin was, indeed one of importance ; and in deciding on it I cannot be master, but on my return to my own country it will be reported to my sovereign, that it (or the parties concerned) may be prosecuted according to law.'

An edict followed from the viceroy, stating that ' the naval officer ought not to make pretexts of returning home : that the

[1] Vide *Penal Code of China*, p. 521, by Sir George Staunton.

[2] ' Any court of inquiry directed by the British Government would come up fully to the spirit of this promise.' Committee.

chief might return to the factory ; but that he must, at the same time, command the naval captain to give up the murderers '.

The Committee determined to move the ships to Chunpee, and ordered the commander of the Repulse, should the forts fire on his ship, to repel force by force. It appeared to the Committee and to Captain Richardson, that there was no alternative but to quit China and leave the affair to be settled by the British nation.

The merchants suggested that it should be stated that two men had absconded from the Topaze. This proposal was instantly rejected. The merchants then stated, that it was reported at Canton, that sailors had landed a second day at Lintin, and if that was disproved it might effect a settlement. Upon this a representation was made by Captain Richardson to the viceroy of the facts, showing that the affair occurred in one day.

On the 1st February a Chinese officer was deputed by the governor to proceed to the ships to inquire into the affair.

The opinion of the president, Mr. Urmston, as to the expediency of quitting China, having undergone some change, and that gentleman considering it right to attempt, if possible by negotiation, a settlement of the affair, expressed his desire to refrain from removing the ships from the river ; upon which Mr. Molony and Sir William Fraser recorded a minute, urging the vital importance, in all negotiations with the Chinese, never to pledge themselves to the adoption of any measure which they were not fully prepared eventually to execute, and never to proceed to such an extreme as withdrawing the factory from Canton, the ships from the river, and announcing their intention of returning to their own country to report the injustice under which they suffered, without being fully prepared to do so.

The president, in reply, stated his sentiments in the following terms, viz.

' After a most deliberate reconsideration of the important question of withdrawing the ships from China, I feel convinced in my own mind that we should not be justified in resorting to that measure, unless absolutely driven to do so by positive acts of hostility on the part of the Chinese government, by their refusing us a residence at Macao (if that plan were adopted), or of their cutting off entirely all supplies from the ships, at whatever anchorage we might resolve on taking, when all negotiation on the present differences terminated. In such case, then, we might be justified in quitting the coast of China.'

' I feel satisfied in my own mind, that under all the circumstances of our situation in this country, and of the trade between England and China, the extreme measure of entirely quitting China would not be expected or sanctioned, either by the Court of Directors or the British government.'

On the 3rd February Captain Richardson reported to the Select Committee that a mandarin from the viceroy had visited the Topaze at Chunpee, and having received from the first lieutenant a full statement of all the circumstances connected with the Lintin affair expressed himself perfectly satisfied, and stated that he should report the same to the viceroy. On the 6th February, Captain Richardson not having received any communication from the viceroy on the subject of the visit of the mandarin, expressed to the Committee his intention to put to sea on the 8th. Mr. Molony and Sir William Fraser recorded their sentiments as adverse to the Topaze quitting China during the night. The president and Mr. Robarts thought it would rather facilitate than impede, as her departure on her own responsibility would be an additional proof that the Committee had no power over ships of war. The Topaze sailed on the 8th : the same was announced to the merchants by the Committee. The Hong merchants arrived at Chunpee on the 13th, and submitted a paper containing the proposed substance of a report from them to the viceroy. The Committee declined to receive it, but stated that if the viceroy would consent to separate the King's from the Company's ships they would return to Canton.

It was ultimately arranged, that the Committee should address the viceroy, acquainting him that the whole of the affair would be reported by Captain Richardson to his sovereign, and that copies of all the papers would be sent to the Court of Directors.

On the 22nd an edict was issued by the viceroy, adverting to the departure of the frigate, to the impossibility of the chief surrendering the murderers, and to the intention of sending the whole account home, and therefore permitting the trade to be resumed.

On the 24th the factory left Chunpee, and arrived at Canton on the 25th.

On the 27th an edict of considerable length was issued by the Canton government, containing an epitome of the whole affair, which document the Committee stated to be full of gross misrepresentations, affording a striking instance of the imposition practised by local authorities on the Emperor and his ministers.

The whole of the circumstances reached the Court in June : a communication thereof was immediately made to the Earl of Liverpool and to Lord Melville, then at the head of the Admiralty, and an order was obtained from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to the Naval Commander-in-chief in India, that in future during peace none of his Majesty's vessels of war should visit any port of China, unless on a requisition from the Governor-General of India or from the Select Committee of supracargoes at Canton.

The Court in a letter to Canton, conveying copies of the correspondence with the Admiralty, stated, 'we have enjoined the Bengal government carefully to abstain from requiring any ship in his Majesty's service to proceed to China unless in case of indispensable necessity. We also particularly enjoin you that nothing but an occurrence of vital importance and of the most urgent necessity induce you to forward any requisition to the government of Bengal, or to the naval Commander-in-chief in India, for the dispatch of any of his Majesty's ships to China during a period of peace.

'We trust that, at least during peace, no future opportunity will be given for contests with the Chinese on the part of the crews of his Majesty's ships, and we most particularly enjoin you to continue to use every precaution in your power to prevent such contests on the part of the crews employed to navigate the ships in our service, and in that of the private British trade between India and China.

'As the indiscreet use of fire-arms by the officers of our ships has in a recent instance occasioned the death of a Chinese, an event on all accounts to be deplored, we shall therefore give the most express orders to the commanders of our ships, that the fire-arms be placed in the utmost security, so that no persons have access thereto, but with the special permission of the commanding officer of the ship.

'We learn from your statement, that you determined upon leaving the factory, and embarking on board the shipping in the river, in consequence of the viceroy persisting in his declared intention of holding you individually responsible for the surrender of the seamen of his Majesty's ship Topaze, to whom the death of the Chinese at Lintin was imputed, and because you felt yourselves insecure in the factory under such circumstances. On your quitting Canton, a communication for the viceroy was left with the Hong merchants.'

The Court considered that the Select Committee had acted prematurely in deciding to quit China, and observed, 'Your departure might have closed our relation with China, while it opened the door for competitors, and your return to Canton, if permitted, would probably have been accompanied by the most humiliating conditions.

'At the same time that we state this opinion, we are far from intending to withhold from you the meed of praise and high commendation due to you for the firm and judicious, yet temperate stand you made against the attempt by the Chinese authorities to implicate you, and the interests confided to you, in the transactions of a King's ship. This resistance, and the success which has attended it by inducing the viceroy to state

in the edict issued on the 20th February, "that the chief at this time indeed appears not to have any means of ordering the delivering up of the persons implicated", have established the distinct character of the respective authorities, and the recognition thereof on the part of the Chinese, which in our opinion is of great importance, and cannot fail of producing beneficial effects to our interests.'

APPENDIX Z

Revival of Prohibition of the Opium Trade

To His Excellency the Most Noble
Francis Marquis of Hastings, K.G., G.C.B.
Governor-General in Council,
Fort William.

My Lord,

We have the honor of transmitting various documents recently issued by the local authorities, at Canton against the Opium trade.

2. It must be fully within the knowledge of your Lordship's Govt. that the Imperial Edicts which forbid the importation of Opium are republished from time to time by the Governor of this province, accompanied occasionally by Severe denunciations against those who transgress the laws in this respect, while the trade Still continues to be carried on by the connivance of those whose duty it is to execute the Edicts.

3. So much venality exists in this Gov^{t} and at the same time, so much responsibility attaches to persons in high Stations under it, that it is difficult for us at all times, to ascertain the motives from whence these apparently rigorous proceedings Spring, and consequently to determine the exact degree of importance which we should attach to them.

4. The interruption which the Opium trade has lately suffered, owes its origin to the apprehension of an offender, charged with an assault of a flagrant nature upon another Chinese, which offender was formerly the medium thro' whom the local Officers of the Macao district received their fees for connivance in the Opium trade, and who thought when apprehended, that his personal impunity would be promoted by implicating the officers of Gov^{t} in acts of public delinquency.

5. The disclosures made by this person it is supposed rendered it imperative upon the Governor of the Province to adopt some measures for the suppression of the Opium trade, and at the same time it afforded him an opportunity of extortion from the Hong Merchants, by alledging (tho' most unjustly) that without

their connivance, the introduction of Opium into China, more especially at Whampoa, could not have been effected.

6. These preliminary observations being kept in view, throughout the perusal of the documents, which are now transmitted, will perhaps enable your Lordship's Govt. to judge more accurately of their importance.

7. The first document which is merely a letter from the Hong Merchants, to our Board, is of no importance the Second is an official report by the Governor of the province, to His Imperial Majesty, which by implicating the Hong Merchants, seems more designed to answer the purpose of extortion, than prevention of the trade, and it has been currently reported that the Courier by whom it was despatched, has since been recalled. It is satisfactory to find that His Excellency, The Governor attaches no criminality to the Honble Company, or the Commanders of their Ships.

8. The third and fourth documents are Edicts from the Governor, in respect to the Country Ships Merope, Eugenia and Hooghly, and the American Ship Emily, which had all been denounced to him by their respective Security Merchants, (who were under the influence of Severe threats,) as having imported Opium to Whampoa, the Imperial Edict of the 20th year of the late Emperor is here recited, attaching certain penalties to the Ships concerned in the Opium trade ; but it will be observed that the Governor proceeds to greater lengths than Stated in the Edict, and orders a confiscation of a part of the Import Cargoes, regularly landed from the Eugenia, and Merope. Upon subsequent representation, this order was modified. It will further appear that the Ships are ordered to be expelled from the Port within the period of five days, dating from the 17th November, there is one clause in this Edict, to which we feel it our duty more particularly to request your Lordship's attention, because should it be followed up, it appears to us, likely to prevent the importation of Opium to Whampoa.

9. We allude to the proposition that all the Country Ships should be secured by the four Senior Merchants in rotation who are the only opulent or respectable ones, by this is meant that on the arrival of a Ship, each of these four Merchants in rotation, should give a bond to Gov^{t} conveying their responsibility that no Opium is imported by her. The Governor, we are informed, has again pressed this point upon the Merchants, and they in their turn State that they shall be under the necessity of requiring Counter bonds from the Commanders or Agents of the Ships before they give their pledge to Gov^{t} without which the Ship will not be allowed to trade.

10. As this is a demand which eminates from the Governor,

unsanctioned at present, by Imperial order, it is possible that resistance on the part of the Hong Merchants, especially if fortified by the refusal of Europeans to comply with the exaction of novel Securities, might overcome the demand, but if it were once carried into execution, it is evident that the Hong Merchants, who have no interest whatever, in the trade of Opium would take all possible means to prevent its introduction at Whampoa.

11. As no Ship has imported since this Edict was issued, we are unable to judge how far it is likely that the proposition in question will be acted on, but we feel it our duty to apprize your Lordship in Council that the Honble the Court of Directors have so positively restricted us from interfering in any way whatsoever, with the trade or traders in Opium, that we are not at liberty to issue any orders to Country Ships, bearing at all upon that question.

12. The fifth document is a plan drawn out by the Hong Merchants for the prevention of the Opium trade, and laid before the Governor of the Province on the 14th Nov^{r}. In this, the Hong Merchants wishing to confine their own responsibility to what had hitherto been customary, and was undertaken by the Merchant, whoever he might be, that purchased [the] Import cargo of the Ship, propose the taking of Bonds from Europeans, which if acquiesced in will tend, in our judgment to impose Shackles on the trade. On the two last papers, it is unnecessary for us to make any comment.

13. Having thus taken the liberty of offering to your Lordship's Govt. such observations as occurred to us, on consideration of the documents now transmitted, it only remains for us to state that the Merope having maintained her Station at Whampoa till this time, has at length been constrained to quit the Port, more we believe by the total impossibility of evading the very Strict guard to prevent any Opium being landed from them, than by any Show of force, in order to carry the Governor's threats into execution; the Eugenia and Hooghly will also probably quit the port in a few days. The Merope and Eugenia have on board as we are informed a large quantity of Opium, amounting to about 1,200 Chts all kinds included.

The Opium trade at Macao has also suffered interruption, and we are not at present enabled to state under what circumstances it is likely to be renewed——

We have the honor to be
My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obed^{t}
humble Servants,
Signed by the Committee.

Canton
10th Dec.
1821.

MANDATE PROHIBITING THE OPIUM TRADE

Kieh the Magistrate of the Nan hae District, and Wung the Magistrate of the Pan Yu (or Whampoa) District, issue the following in obedience to orders—

We have received an official Document from Ching the Poo Chingsze (or Treasury of the province) which contains the following—

On the 22nd of the 10th moon of the first year of Taou Kwang I received an official Document from Yuen the Guardian of the Prince, and Governor General of the two provinces Kwang-tung and Kwang-se, couched in these words.

The Hong Merchants have in obedience to orders, stated to Gov^{t} that they have found out three vessels Hek's and others all of whom have Opium on board, which they have brought with them into the Port. Opium is a commodity which is produced among foreigners beyond Seas, and from thence, flows in and poisons China. Often have Imperial Edicts been issued strictly prohibiting it, and I with the Hoppo, have issued Severe prohibitions against it, not two or three times only.

I have now found out by enquiry that the foreign Ships which enter the Port, still clandestinely smuggle it in, and I have ordered the Merchants to their face, to enquire and examine about every vessel, and report the facts to Gov^{t}. These Merchants have now stated that the Country Ships Hek (Captain Hogg) [*Merope*] and Pekinshe (Capt. Parkyns) [*Eugenia*] and the American Ship Kapelun (Capt. Cowpland) [*Emily*] all have opium in them, hereby egregiously offending the Mandates of the *Celestial Empire*. In the 20th year of Kia King, it was ordered by His Imperial Majesty that 'if one vessel brought Opium that vessel and her whole cargo should be rejected, and her trading interdicted; if all the vessels brought Opium, then, they must all have the whole of their cargoes rejected, and their trading interdicted, and the Ships expelled from the Port.' This is on record. Now as the Ships Hek (Capt. Hogg) and Pekinshe (Capt. Parkyns) and Kapelun (Capt. Cowpland), have been discovered to contain Opium, it is right forthwith, in reverential obedience to Imperial Orders, to reject the whole cargo, of these Ships, but of these three Ships, some have landed goods, and some have not, and some have taken on board goods, and some have not, which is a different case from those Ships that have just entered the Port, and it is proper to distinguish and punish them severely....

I have advisedly determined concerning these three Ships, which have already landed, and sold Cotton, Putchuk, and Tin, that the Security Merchant shall calculate accurately the

original cost, in the respective Country to which the Ship belongs, and shall out of clemency, give one half to the foreigner, to whom the Commodities belong, it being only permitted however to give it in goods, not in money, and an order shall be issued to the *Tay-pan* to wait for the goods, till three months after the Ship leaves the Port, when he may put them on board some other Ship, and send them to his own Country, he shall not be allowed to put them on board the Original Ship. The other half of the value of the landed goods, and the profits which have been made on them, shall be confiscated, and delivered to the treasury of the Poo Chingsze, for the use of Gov^{t}. The goods which have not yet been landed, shall all be rejected, and the Opium it shall be the duty of Howqua, and the others, to take out of the Ship, and burn, and let the Ships which contained it, be expelled from the port, and sent back to their own Country within five days.

As to the goods which *Kapelun* has taken on board, it is stated they belong to a foreigner of the 'Holland' Nation, who has freighted them. I fear there is some clandestine working to each other's hands in this, and order that they shall not be freighted in that Ship, but hereby require the Nam-hai Magistrate to put officers over the Securing Merchant, and make him instantly take them all out of the said Ship, and store them up till three months after the Ship leaves the port, and then permit them to be put on board, some other Ship, and sent away.

In one word, ordinary goods, if smuggled are liable to be confiscated, and how can these three Ships which have brought a prohibited commodity, and offended against the mandates of the Celestial Empire be permitted to escape without Severe punishment to correct the gain Scheming hearts of foreigners?

Further the Celestial Empire allows a trade in tea to keep alive those Nations, and the said foreign Merchants clandestinely sell Opium to injure China. Neither Celestial principles nor the Royal law will allow this.

Let the aforesaid three Ships not only be disallowed trading on this occasion, but moreover it is right to set a mark on them, and for ever disallow them coming to Canton to trade.

Let this Document be handed to the treasurer, and let them unite with the Judge in instantly requiring the Nam-hai and Whampoa Magistrate to communicate the order to the Hong Merchants, and rigorously impel them to a Speedy management of the business, let there not be the least opposition, nor delay, the existence of which will involve them in serious guilt.

As to all those Merchants who carelessly secure every Ship that has Opium, by rights they should be broken, and their crime punished, but as they have themselves made the disclosures let them as an act of clemency be forgiven.

Hereafter the foreign Ships which enter the Port, ought to be secured by the four first Merchants, Howqua, Mowqua, Puankhequa and Chunqua, they must not throw them off themselves on the hinder Merchants, those four Merchants, are opulent and substantial people, and will no doubt out of regard for their own persons and families feel awe and dread.

Let a communication be made to the Officers of the Fooyuen, and Hoppo and copies be taken, etc.

We receiving the above in obedience thereto, issue it to the Hong Merchants, and require in the most rigorous manner to proceed with haste to obey the tenor thereof—

Haste, Haste!

A *Special Edict.*

Taou Kwang. 1st year.
10th moon. 23rd day
17. November. 1821.

Paper issued by the Viceroy of Canton Yuen Tajin, which passed thro' the Treasurer's Office, and the two local Magistrates of Pan-yu, and Nan-hae to the Hong Merchants by whom it was delivered.

Dated 2 Dec. 1821. Recd. 8 Dec.

We the Pan-yu and Nan-hae Magistrates on the 7th of the 11th moon of the 1st year of Taou-Kwang received an Official Document from the Poo Chingsze, saying,

On the 6th of the 11th moon, I received from the Governor General of the two Kwang Provinces, Kwang-Tong, and Kwang-se, the following Document—

The Hong Merchants have presented a petition from Several foreign Merchants craving a remission of the penalty inflicted etc.—

I the Governor before issued an Order, that Kap's and other vessels, four in number, would each have half the value of its cargo confiscated to Gov^{t}. agreeable to the usage of the interior, and because that which the foreigners value most is Trade, I designed to cause them a loss, to punish the lucre Scheming hearts of avaricious foreigners, and to inflict a penalty for their Smuggling in a Contraband commodity to the injury of our People, and I designed to cause all foreign nations to hear it, and to know that not only smuggled Opium could not be sold, but that on account of it, correct commodities would be implicated in a loss; so that next year, those who came to Canton to trade, would not dare to Smuggle it, and involve themselves in trouble.

I the Governor, intended hereby to arouse a hundred by the

punishment of one, and by one operation of the law, to put a stop to any further use for the law.

By no means was it the case, that the Noble, Magnificent, and Palace-like Celestial Empire needed this petty trifling confiscation.

I now find that these Several foreign vessels are embarrassed and necessitous in an extreme degree, that the Merchants roar out, as under the agonies of a head-ache, their Supplication, and I find that *Kap* and the others, the three vessels brought goods to the amount of 200,000 [Tales]; that the confiscation will require 100,000 Tales; and further it is said these foreigners have partners, and that their whole Capital is but a trifling Sum, and also that an order of confiscation was not previously made known to them.

Therefore as the Celestial Empire heaps its bounties on men from remote parts, and unites equally, gracious arts and Stern Majesty, I the Governor in humble imitation of the infinitely tender kindness of

The Great Emperor

towards foreigners, now exercise clemency to these persons, on the first offence, and allow that the Sentence to confiscate half the value of their cargoes be remitted.

But in the 20th year of Kia-King an Imperial Order was received, saying that if any Ship brought Opium, the whole of its cargo should be rejected, this is on record.

Now *Kap's* and the other Ships have been long in the Port, and have sold half their cargoes, and the Imperial order to reject the whole of the cargo, cannot be carried into effect; but if the profits of the already sold part of the Cargo be given them, it will be a violation of the Imperial Order, and the punishment inflicted will be insufficient.

Therefore let the former order given by me concerning the unsold part of the cargo, be carried into force, and the whole of it be rejected, and respecting that which has been delivered, let it devolve on the Hong Merchants to calculate justly, how much the cost is, and how much is profit, and let them give back the cost to purchase goods with, but not allow them to buy tea, or rhubarb, nor let them (as was before decided) take away the goods, but have them sent in some other Ship, three months after they leave the Port. The profits of the said half shall be delivered to the Provincial Treasurer, and applied to the use of Gov^{t}. Thus the case will be to the Foreigners, the same, whether their goods had been sold, or unsold, and the Imperial Order to reject the whole Cargo, will be complied with.

I, the Governor, have obeyed The Imperial Order, and have still exercised clemency on account of this being the first offence of the Several Ships, hereafter if the foreign Ships of any Nation

again offend, they cannot crave clemency, nor an exemption from confiscation.

I pass this to the Treasurer, that he may unite with the Criminal Judge, and order the two local Magistrates to command the Hong Merchants to obey, speedily and Strictly the tenor of this.

And furthermore, let a strict watch be kept up, to prevent any the least possible quantity of tea, or rhubarb being smuggled out of the port.

As to one of these Ships, that is *Kap-pe-lan's*, it contained merely about 1,000 Catties of foreign tin worth scarcely any thing, and it paid for the Port charges, upwards of 1,400 Tales, from which it appears the said vessel came for no purpose, but to sell Opium. Infinitely detestable! Rightly did Heaven send down punishment, and cause Francis Terranovia to commit a crime for which he was Strangled.

This Ship should be punished most severely, only as the three Ships *Kap's* and the others, have had clemency extended to them, and the value of their Sold cargo given back, I shall remit the Sentence, on all equally, and shall deal with it as with *Kap's*, and the others, to inflict a little punishment.

In one word,

The Celestial Empire permits, tea, rhubarb etc. to be sold to keep alive the people of the said Nations, those persons who are annually kept alive thereby, are more than 10,000 times 10,000. How Substantial a favor is this! Yet these foreigners feel no gratitude, nor wish to render a recompense, but smuggle in prohibited Opium, which flows, and poisons the land. When this conduct is referred to the heart, it must be disquieted, when referred to reason, it is contrary to it.

In broad day, on earth, there is the Royal Law, in Hades, after death, there are Gods and Demons. These foreign Ships pass an immense Ocean, go thro' Gales of wind, boisterous Seas, and unknown dangers, entirely preserved by the condescending protection of the Celestial Gods.

And therefore, they should hereafter rouse themselves to zealous reflection, to bitter repentance, to reformation; and alter their inhuman and unreasonable conduct, then will the Winds be fair, and the Waves still'd, and they will for ever, receive the Gracious Bounty of the *Celestial Empire*!

Let the Hong Merchants in obedience to this Edict, carefully and minutely inculcate its contents to all foreign Ships, going away to their own Countries, and to all Supercargoes, requiring them to know and understand it.

I the Poo Chingsze having received from the Governor, the

above quoted Document, transfer it to the local Magistrates to carry it into effect.

We the local Magistrates having received the above quoted Commands, hereby order the Hong Merchants to carry the same into effect, without delay.

Disobedience will involve guilt, and heavy consequences.

Hasten ! Hasten !

Taou-Kwang.
1 y. 11 m. 8 day.

The Hong Merchants to the Select Committee

Gentlemen,

We approach to State that Opium is a commodity which the laws have heretofore prohibited most strictly, and we have before respectfully received commands to order all the respective Ships that they must not bring it. This has occurred not a second nor a third time only.

Last year Captain Hogg's Ship (the Eugenia) Capt. Robson's (Hooghley) Capt. Parkin's (Merope) and Capt. Cowpland's (American Ship Emily) all brought Opium into the Port, and these, when it was discovered were in obedience to the Imperial Will, sent away and not allowed to Trade, and it was decided that, afterwards if any Opium were smuggled into the Port the implicated Ship was to be treated in the same manner.

We will trouble the Chief and Committee to send a letter to the Comp^{y} and to India and to the Marts, informing every one that, Opium must not be smuggled into Canton, for if reverently orders be received to search and discovery ensue, the Ship will be rejected and not allowed to trade, and if this year any Ship not knowing the prohibition should bring Opium we beg you to inform her that She must not on any account enter the Port but set sail immediately, for if She do enter and we find it out, we positively cannot become security, but must assuredly and immediately report it to the great Offices of Gov^{t}, that the Affair may be prosecuted according to law. This is an Affair which concerns our persons, families and lives, and we are compelled to proceed in the straight road of management. We hope you will excuse us and with Compts we remain,

Gentlemen,

Sig^{d} By the Hong Merchts.

2nd Moon 12th day
March 6th 1822.

FROM REPORT TO SECRET COMMITTEE OF COURT OF DIRECTORS

18. Among the regulations which the Viceroy is endeavouring to establish for preventing the introduction of Opium into China, that one is perhaps of most serious importance to the continuance of the traffic at Whampoa, which proposes that all foreign Ships should be secured by the four Senior Merchants, who are the only Opulent and respectable Hongs.

19. By this it is meant, that on the arrival of a Ship each of these four Merchants in rotation should give a bond to Gov^{t} conveying their responsibility, that no Opium is imported in her and for their more certain security, a Counter Bond is required from the Commanders or Agents of Ships before the merchants give their pledge to Gov^{t} without which the Ship is not permitted to Trade.

20. This regulation is founded upon a plan submitted to Gov^{t} by the Merchants themselves, which will be found on our secret records of 20 Nov. last. At the period it was recommended by the Merchants they little imagined it would be productive of all the evils now to be apprehended in its exercise and we believe, they now sincerely lament the opportunity they have thus unwarily afforded Gov^{t} of practising additional Extortion and oppression on their several Hongs.

21. In the 45 Para of our letter to your Honble Committee per Herefordshire, we stated that the Merchants had intimated to us that in future Bonds would be required from the H. C. Ships in common with every other Ship and that until granted they could not undertake to secure them.

22. Conformably with this intimation we have now to inform your Honble Committee, that a Bond has been demanded from the Commander of the Scaleby Castle immediately on the arrival of that Ship at Whampoa and the same having hitherto been withheld, that Ship as well as the Vansittart have not yet been permitted to discharge their Cargoes.

23. Your Honble Committee in your letter to China of the 8th May 1818 have enjoined our conceding the point of giving Bonds, if demanded by the Chinese Govt., rather than renew the discussion of 1814 upon this subject and the spirit of the instructions furnished to us in that letter, according to our interpretation generally recommend acquiescence in the wishes of this Govt. We conceive however, that these instructions never could have contemplated the pernicious tendency of the affidavits now demanded.

24. These affidavits require an extention of security beyond every reasonable limit, namely, that the parties subscribing them should affirm that not the smallest particle of Opium is imported in the Ship, and should it so happen that any hereafter is detected,

they assent to submit cheerfully to the laws, or in other words consent to confiscation of property and Expulsion from the Port.

25. The case of the Gunner of the Essex in 1819–20 and the more recent one of the Captain's Steward of the Atlas in the present season are quite sufficient of themselves to Shew the impossibility of our being security against the introduction of Opium in our own Ships and the dangerous consequences that might ensue if we consented to subscribe to this affidavit.

26. By the Securities now demanded, it will be evident to your Honble Committee, that a very important part of the Hong Merchants responsibility is vertually transferred to foreigners and if such an innovation is acceded to, a precedent is established for others, which may finally be productive of the worst consequences to the European Trade with China.

27. So long as the requisitions of Gov^{t} were of a nature that did not involve in their consequence serious injury to the Hble Comp^{ys} Interest we should have considered it our duty to adhere implicitly to the H. Courts orders of the 8th May 1818 but the present demands are of such an opposite tendency that we feel it imperative upon us to resist them to the utmost of our ability.

LXXIX

BURNING OF THE FOREIGN FACTORIES, 1822

For the season 1822 the Select Committee consisted of Mr. J. B. Urmston (President), Mr. J. T. Robarts, and Sir W. Fraser.

The books were opened on April 15th with the following balances :

		Tls.	Tls.
Cr. by silver in treasury, 451,826 dollars			325,315
Woollens imported, unsold			215,535
Iron ,, ,,			7,006
Medicines ,, ,,			805
Tea in stock, 339 piculs			66,080
Factory account			8,247
Loan on factories			69,602
Buildings and dead stock, and schooner			158,694
Estate of Thomas Beale			129,070
Due from Hong Merchants :	Puiqua	130,082	
	Mowqua	68,598	
	Chunqua	176,257	
	Conseequa	271,387	
	Fatqua	44,695	
			691,019
			1,671,373
Dr. to Owing to Hong Merchants :	Exchin	1,020	
	Manhop	14,041	
	Poonequa	69,293	
	Goqua	57,313	
			141,667
Credit balance			1,529,706

The iron valued as an asset at Tls. 7,006 realized Tls. 6,653 ; and woollens included as of a value of Tls. 146,038 realized Tls. 142,107.

The Company loaded for London nineteen Indiamen, uniformly chartered at 1,200 tons, a total of 22,800 tons, but with a carrying capacity of 24,540 tons. Their import cargoes on Company's account realized, as shown in the table at the close of the chapter, a total of Tls. 2,636,231, but from this amount is to be deducted Tls. 946,352, the value of the greater part of the Company's woollens, which had been landed by November 1st and were an almost total loss in a fire which destroyed the

Company's warehouse. By this loss the realized value of English imports was reduced from Tls. 2,001,905 to Tls. 1,055,553, and of the Company's total imports from Tls. 3,514,974 to Tls. 2,568,622.

The treasury was supplied as follows:

	Dollars.
Credit by assets as above, Tls. 1,529,706	2,096,814
Realized from imports, net, Tls. 2,568,622	3,567,531
Bengal Bills at 204 Sicca rupees and 30 days	1,575,166
Bombay Bills at 220 Bombay rupees	1,237,937
Certificates to commanders and officers	285,121
Indian engagements fulfilled	217,157
Estate of Thos. Beale, dividend 10 per cent.	25,249
Tls. 6,483,582 =	9,004,975

The investment was invoiced at Tls. 5,809,084, in addition to Tls. 41,300 for St. Helena and the Cape of Good Hope. The comprador's account was abstracted as follows:

	Tls.
Canton Factory Expenses	60,934
Charges on Merchandise	17,510
Charges Extraordinary	4,076
	82,520

The usual trade particulars are as follows:

	Ships. No.	*Ships.* Tons.	*Cotton.* Piculs.	*Tea.* Piculs.	*Raw Silk.* Piculs.	*Woven Silks.* Pieces.	*Nankeens.* Pieces.
English:							
Company	19	24,540	50,344	218,327	562	..	117,000
Country[1]	21	11,264	175,322	15,913	4,616	37,842	404,678
American	31	11,297	888	84,778	70	381,430	1,107,706
	71	47,101	226,554	319,018	5,248	419,272	1,629,384

Other particulars regarding the American trade, as given for previous seasons, are as follows:

		Chinese Repository. Dollars.	*American Customs.* Dollars.
Imports:	Opium	..	..
	Other merchandise	2,046,549	3,067,795
	Treasure	6,292,840	5,125,000
		8,339,389	8,192,795
Exports:	Merchandise	7,523,492	
	Disbursements	280,000	

[1] Including shipments in private trade to England, tea 11,408 piculs, raw silk (Nanking) 1,358 piculs, woven silks 8,000 pieces, nankeens 202,400 pieces.

One Danish ship arrived from Copenhagen on September 16th, but no particulars are given of her trade.

In their consignments of woollens the Committee had in the previous season received a quantity of Aurora Long Ells, which had not been approved by the merchants, chiefly on the ground that they would lower the demand for the scarlets. In the current season, however, it was found before the fire that the market accepted them at Tls. 11 a piece, or, deducting duty Tls. 1·50, at a net price of Tls. 9·50, which was from Tls. 1·50 to Tls. 2 better than the standard price for the customary assortment of colours. In broadcloth it was found that an 'experimental consignment of supers and worsters died with Lac Dye instead of Cochineal' was a failure, inasmuch as the pieces had not the brilliancy and richness of colour of those dyed with cochineal. The great fire destroyed a great part of the woollens imported during the season, in the hands of the Company, of the Hong Merchants, and of the dealers, and a great improvement in the price was to be expected; the Committee recognized, however, that the market could not respond at once, and they delivered what remained to the merchants at the reduced prices previously agreed on, only stipulating that the Company should benefit by any improvement in the market.

For many years past, certainly since 1760, the Chinese authorities had restricted the quantity of silk exported by each ship.

Reverting to our records on the subject, we perceive that a total prohibition to the export of Raw and Wrought Silks took place in 1760, which appears to have been partially repealed within a few years, as in 1768 it is stated that the Merchants are fearful of engaging for a larger quantity than 1,500 peculs as only 88 Peculs are allowed for each Ship.

On October 1st a deputation of the commanders and supercargoes of American ships carried into the city a petition to the Hoppo, asking for a permit to ship a large quantity of woven silks already purchased,

of which the Custom House regulations only permit the export to the amount of 88 Peculs in each Ship; it would appear that in reliance upon former usage they had purchased these Silks. . . . In former years whatever quantity was purchased beyond the licensed amount of

88 Peculs for each Vessel, was enabled to be sent on board by the assumption of the name of a Country Ship in the river not trafficking in this article by an encreased expence of 20 Dollars per Pecul as an additional duty or fee.

The great increase in the number of American vessels made it impossible to continue to cloak their shipments under the names of the diminished number of British country ships. The result of this petition is not recorded ; but the British ships had no margin to spare. The Company's ships carried, in the Company's trade and private trade, 1,920 piculs of raw silk and about 100 piculs of woven silks, an average of 106 piculs for each ship ; while the country ships took 3,258 piculs of raw silk, and about 400 piculs of woven silks ; but of the raw silk

581	piculs	were	Nanking	silk		worth	380	dollars	a	picul.
1,618	,,	,,	Canton	better	sorts	,,	280	,,	,,	
1,059	,,	,,	,,	5th	,,	,,	70	,,	,,	

How it was managed that twenty-one ships should take this quantity of silk, the records do not show ; but on October 30th a Parsee merchant, Framjee Muncherjee, requested the Committee to allow him to draw on the unused privilege of the Company's ships—a request which was denied. No explanation has ever been given why the authorities should have restricted the export of silk—and, more or less rigidly, enforced the restriction.

The policy imposed on the Committee by the Court was to interfere as little as possible with the country traders, and in particular to avoid supporting them. The firm of Forbes and Co. shipped cotton from Bombay to Canton, and wrote to the Committee (letter received July 22nd) asking them to act as agents in selling the consignment. The Committee refused under the Court's instructions, and, on the question of principle, expressed a doubt whether it would be wise to act for firms in India. The native merchants of Bombay were experiencing great difficulty in collecting from the Chinese merchants the money due to them, and, under date of July 17th, they addressed a petition to the Governor in Council asking him to write to the Committee at Canton to request their intervention in the matter. The Governor's letter forwarding the petition was received at Canton on September 16th, and at a consultation on October 7th they

recorded their opinion in a way not flattering to the petitioners:

> We cannot avoid our surprise at its presentation, when we reflect that the evil it complains of has been wrought greatly by the complainants themselves, and that the cause of the general distress under which the Junior Merchants labour, may easily be traced to these people or to their agents residing in Canton, that so far from assisting their Commercial Transactions with the Chinese Merchants as they are now carried on, it would rather be our duty to protect them [the Chinese] from the overreaching abilities and craftiness of the Parsees. It has been a subject of frequent notice that the Junior Hongs have sustained great injury by the purchase of Cotton at 2 or even 3 Tales per pecul beyond the Market price to realise a temporary supply of money for the payment of duties or to meet immediate demands without regard to the sacrifice they must eventually make. . . . The Cargoes for which payment is now demanded, and upon which account Exchin has been proceeded against by the ultimate measure of severity, these Merchants having presented a petition against him at the Gates of the City, were purchased by him at a price greatly beyond what any other European Merchant could obtain, and beyond what the state of the Market warranted. The Americans too have had a sufficient influence over him to engage him in Transactions involving him in personal and pecuniary difficulties, and what comes more immediately to our notice is the assistance we understand has been afforded them for the contraband introduction of Camlets and Woollens, practices beneficial to his employers but ruinous to himself.

The debts of the Chinese merchants were to become a burning question. They had been incurred in transactions such as these, and the English Company was free from complicity in them. Money was, of course, owing to the Company on current account, and to a considerable amount, but these debts could be liquidated by the help given and the cash advanced by the Committee. The duties payable on the trade of this year were demanded in the course of next year, and transmitted to Peking in the third year—this was the Chinese system; but with the weaker firms the corpus on which this debt was based had already been dissipated, and it had become an annual custom for the Committee to find next year, based on the future transactions of next year, the cash required to pay the duties and Consoo charges of the past year. On May 27th the Committee received its customary appeal from the seven junior Hongs to advance the

cash required by the authorities, to be found within the coming month. The amounts required for each were as follows :

	Duties and Measurage.	*Ginseng.*	*Yellow River.*	*Tribute.*	*Total.*
	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.
Conseequa . . .	20,340	..	..	..	20,340
Poonequa . . .	17,000	4,500	7,100	3,600	42,200
Kinqua . . .	..	Total about			30,000
Goqua . . .	16,000	4,000	6,100	..	39,200
Manhop . . .	17,000	9,500	4,850	3,980	40,330
Pacqua (Exchin) .	24,800	9,500	7,500	9,500	46,300
Fatqua . . .	30,000	4,500	6,000	2,000	47,500
		Total			265,870

In this table the figures, with all their discrepancies, are as given in the letter of the seven Hongs, copied into the Committee's Consultation. The Committee held that the duties and measurage were liabilities for which they might properly be asked to find money, but they decided to cut down the advances for the Consoo charges, and accordingly agreed to advance a total of Tls. 165,855, which was in July increased to Tls. 193,452. Two of these Hongs were very seriously embarrassed—that of Exchin by his assumption of no less than Tls. 190,000 of Consoo charges properly payable by others, that of Fatqua by the death of the senior partner. Exchin was extricated from his more pressing difficulties by loans from his Chinese friends, including Tls. 30,000 from Puiqua and Tls. 10,000 from Mowqua ; but then his affairs were still further complicated by the discovery of the fact that he owed Tls. 167,000 to Americans and Tls. 330,000 to Parsees, which he was unable to pay. The Parsees threatened to make him bankrupt by petitioning the Viceroy, and for some months the Committee refused to intervene in his favour, until in October a scheme was drawn up by the other Hong Merchants. This was accepted by the Committee ; but the other creditors refused to make the sacrifices required by them, and on October 18th,

> in consequence of the Parsees persisting in their persecution of Exchin and their non compliance with any compromise, that Merchant was committed to prison in the City as the probable commencement of the execution of his sentence according to the Laws of this country against Bankrupts, and against those who owed money to foreigners.

Fatqua's firm, already in difficulties, was now further burdened by a demand by the authorities for a fee of 100,000 dollars for the

renewal of the Hong Chop to his son, enforced by the threat of immediate liquidation if the fee was not paid. The son was informed by the Committee that all help would be withheld until he was free of the complication of this unsatisfied demand.

This also dragged on for nearly six months; but on October 18th, the day on which Exchin was sent to prison, the Hong Chop was reissued to Fatqua's firm, the fee having presumably been paid, and the Committee thereupon made the advances which in May had been promised to the firm. The firm of Kinqua also became involved, and on January 21, 1823, the Committee were informed that

Kinqua had effected a compromise with his creditors under the agreement of immediately paying 50, 30 & 20 per Cent on their several claims in proportion to the urgency of the case and the necessities of the claimants.

The cash required for the purpose was provided by Puiqua, though 40,000 dollars were passed through the accounts as paid by the Committee. The extortion practised on the Hong Merchants was incessant. On November 1st

The Hoppo has been for some time endeavouring to extort from the Hong Merchants the sum of 40,000 Taels for what he denominates the purchase of Imperial Lamps. In consequence of the inability of the Junior Merchants to satisfy his demand of their proportion their Chop Boats were yesterday stopped from proceeding to the Ships and we this day assembled the Merchants to declare our Intention to prevent the shipment of the Chops of the Senior Merchants until permission was granted for the continuance of the others and that the Hoppo was now to be addressed on the subject.

This effected a complete cure, but whether by working on the sympathies of the senior merchants or on the heart of the Hoppo is not recorded. These were the trimmings of the Hoppo's revenue. In a memorial to the throne the Viceroy gives details of the admitted collection of the Hoppo's officers and stations for the past season, which was in process of collection this season, as follows:

		Tls.	Tls.
Import duty:	assessment by Imperial authority in the 10th year of Kiaking (1805)	855,500	
	excess collected during year . .	629,647	
	Actual collection . .		1,485,147
Export duty:	collection at Canton . . .	510,056	
	collected at sub-stations . .	128,593	
	measurage of ships . . .	182,098	
			820,747
	Total collection, all offices . .		2,305,894

Howqua (otherwise Puiqua), whose name in Chinese was Wu Tun-yuen, had by this time acquired a dominating position in the Cohong. Nominally a co-director with Mowqua, he was actually the only one among the senior merchants who had sufficient capital to assist the Committee in propping up the embarrassed junior Hongs. He had now been connected with the foreign trade for thirty years, and ten years hence, in 1834, he declared the capital value of his assets to be twenty-six million dollars:[1] born in 1769, he died in 1843. In this year 1822 he excited the displeasure of the Committee for having, as director of the Hong, given the authorities to understand that they, the Committee, had given an undertaking that the *Topaze* would return, bringing the two men who had been adjudged guilty of the death of the two Chinese on Lintin. The Committee's opinion of him was expressed thus:

> Independent of his conduct in this affair, we have every reason to object to the general tenor of his disposition towards us, whenever his influence with the Government Officers is required as Director of the Hong, his timid disposition renders him too inefficient to be relied upon, and his great wealth always an object of attention to the Government, eager to inculpate him whenever an opportunity presents itself, causes his entire submission to all their requisitions.

The Committee wrote to Howqua to complain of his duplicity, and he defended himself by declaring that the falsification had been made in the Hoppo's yamen. On that same day the Committee and Howqua were arranging for the settlement of Kinqua's affairs; and for the Chinese New Year settlement the Committee owed Howqua a total of 1,055,555 dollars, on 736,111 dollars of which they paid him interest at 10 per cent. per annum.

The private trade of the junior officers on the Company's ships was jealously protected against the encroachments of the commanders, who were always trying to absorb the space reserved for it, and to take it by fair means—purchase—or by foul—the tyrannous exercise of their authority. In one such case in this season the Committee intervened and ordered a commander to allow to his fourth officer the privilege which was his by rights, but which the commander had denied to him. With the fall in the rate of exchange for bills, the commanders and others were now exercising to its limit their privilege of

[1] Hunter, *Fankwae at Canton*, p. 48.

paying into the Company's treasury the surplus of their outward venture not required for the purchase of their homeward venture, and obtaining certificates therefor, half payable at 90 days, half at 365 days, after sight. The amounts for the various grades were as follows:

	Dollars.	£
Commander	12,539	3,000
First Officer	1,254	300
Second Officer	836	200
Third Officer, Surgeon, Purser	627	150
Fourth Officer, Asst. Surgeon	418	100
Fifth Officer, Boatswain, Gunner, Carpenter	209	50

On March 3, 1822, was issued at Peking an imperial rescript reinforcing the existing prohibition of the export of sycee silver.

It is fixed by Law that the Hong Merchants at Canton in their commercial intercourse with Foreigners should only receive Goods and give Goods in return and not be allowed to employ Silver; the Law on this subject is very full and explicit. Of late in consequence of the people of this country liking the use of foreign Coins, the Hong Merchants employ Silver to purchase them. . . . It is hereby ordered that the Viceroy and Governor of Canton and the Superintendent of the Port (Hoppo) do depute civil and military officers to cruize about and to make a true and faithful search of foreign Ships leaving the Port, and not allow them to smuggle away Silver.

This prohibition is based expressly on the difficulties caused in buying tea in the tea districts, owing to the constant use of foreign coins and the deficiency of sycee, and, at this date, was not connected in any way with the importation of the contraband opium.

The measures adopted for the suppression of the opium trade continued to be put in force. The Company had uniformly forbidden the carriage of opium to Canton by any of their ships, but in this season shipments from Calcutta to Singapore were permitted—70 chests by the *Dunira*, 103 chests by the *Castle Huntly*—under stringent bond to discharge them there. The action of the Chinese authorities was so far effective as to drive the opium ships from Whampoa and to check the sales at Macao; but in their final report on the preceding season to the Secret Committee, under date of April 18, 1822, the Select Committee stated—

The proceedings of the Local authorities at Canton will it is understood have the effect in future seasons of keeping all ships importing Opium without the port but the facility that is now afforded in the disposal of this Commodity to regular Brokers in the vicinity of the River it is considered will render the alteration in the Traffic of no moment.

All the evidence shows that the sales were checked only temporarily and that the consumption of the year was not reduced; but they were not effected under the eyes of the officials, who were, for the moment, too scared to be lax. On May 9th word came to Canton that a profound impression had been produced at Peking by the charges brought by Cheong Wu against many of the officials of accepting bribes to allow contraband opium to be imported. Cheong Wu had been cast into the prison of the Kwangchow Fu, and on July 26th,

By the Canton papers received this day we learn that Cheong Woo has been tried and subjected to Torture, when he declared that the Officers whom he accused of receiving bribes, actually did so, and that his appeal to the Emperor contained the facts. The bearer of the appeal is cast into Kwang-chow-foo prison and Cheong Woo into the Criminal Judges.

On August 15th it is further recorded that

Cheong Woo it is stated was tortured three days successively until he confessed he had falsely accused the Officers of Government, he further acknowledged that he had dealt in Opium. The Fouyuen has sent an express to meet the Viceroy with this satisfactory intelligence, it is at present matter of speculation whether Cheong Woo's life will be forfeited or not.

The last reference to opium in the records during this season was on August 27th, when the Committee received from the Hong Merchants the Hoppo's mandate directing that certain country ships be ordered to quit the coast. On this the consultation was as follows:

Having studiously avoided as far as we are able any interference in the concerns of the Country ships and more especially those relating to Opium we consider it will be sufficient to confine our reply to the Merchants to a reference to the Agents of Captain Govers Ship the *Samarang*. This Ship with the *Eugenia, Merope* and *Glorioso* Country Ships, and a Spanish Brig belonging to Mr. Calvo (all having Opium on board) we are informed are hovering about the Coast, near the entrance of the Canton river, and their notorious object being the clandestine

introduction of Opium into the Province, we are apprehensive so open a defiance of the rigorous measures adopted last season for the suppression of this illicit traffic, is likely to excite a correspondent feeling of alarm and anxiety on the part of this jealous Government, the repeated application of the term 'nefarious practices' in the Hoppo's Edict conveys a strong insinuation that this feeling of alarm has already been awakened, on the other hand however we may hope that as the *Eugenia* and *Merope* have remained during the whole summer on the Coast and in this immediate vicinity without any notice having been taken of them, the Chinese Govt. are aware of the difficulty of driving Ships away from the Coast, will suffer the Opium trade to relapse into that system of connivance which has hitherto marked the conduct of this extraordinary Traffick.

While this activity was in progress, the minds of the authorities were again stirred up over the affair of the *Topaze*. The frigate had sailed on February 8th, and on May 6th the Committee received private communication of a dispatch from the Privy Council to the Viceroy, dated Peking, March 29th, in which, after insistence on the responsibility of the English Chief, instructions were sent as follows:

Since the Man of War has spread her sails and run away the foreign murderers are no doubt gone with her. It is hereby ordered that the method of proceeding agreed on in Council be adopted. Let all the Merchantmen be ordered to open their Hatches and take on board Cargo, but still let the Chief be ordered to tell the King of that Country to investigate the affair, and find out the foreign murderers, and put them on board a Merchantman and send them under a guard to Canton, and by name deliver them up and await their prosecution.

It was also pointed out that, as piracy along the coast had been stamped out, it was no longer necessary that merchantmen should be convoyed by ships of war; but, if the latter did come, they must remain outside the river, and must conform to the laws of China. These orders were communicated on May 27th through the Namhoi Hien and the Hong Merchants to the Committee, and they wrote to the Court of Directors—

Your Hon'ble Court will perceive that the two great points attempted to be maintained by us during the recent discussion, viz. that 'self-defence was universally considered a justification of homicide', and that 'the Representatives of the Hon'ble Company could not justly be responsible for the Acts of His Majesty's Naval Officers', are now not acknowledged, and we beg to inform your Hon'ble Court that the Imperial Reply has appeared in the Peking Gazette where it is published

to the Empire as ' the last declaration of the Laws of China concerning homicides committed by Foreigners in this Country. . . .' When we reflect upon the power with which the Local Authorities at Canton are now invested by this last promulgation of the Law and the fatal termination of the American Homicide in October last, we can hardly flatter ourselves in the event of any future accidents, that that line of cautious policy towards Foreigners will be observed which has hitherto characterised the Chinese in these discussions with us upon affairs of this nature. . . . We have come to the determination of addressing the Fooyuen (who is now acting for the absent Viceroy) protesting against the justness of the present requisitions of the Chinese Government on the subject of Homicides, and expressly disavowing the truth of the assertions of the late Viceroy respecting our promise of producing the men of His Majesty's Ship *Topaze* for punishment.

The address to the Governor was sent in, flatly denying that any promise had been given by the Committee that any men would be returned to Canton; and in his reply of June 17th the Governor persisted in his insistence on the responsibility of the Chief for the acts of all British subjects. With that denial on the one side, and that insistence on the other, the matter rested; and writing on November 15th to the Chairman of the Court of Directors, Mr. Urmston reported that

the Viceroy, in an interview which the Hong Merchants had with him a few days since, after his return, remarked to them that he should look for the two Englishmen belonging to H.M. Ship *Topaze* for the two Chinese who had been killed, when the proper period arrived for their appearance in China.

The Committee's complaint against Howqua in this connexion has been referred to above.

During the season there were several incidents of no great importance. On October 4th the officer on the ' mandarin boat ' attached to the Company's ship *Thomas Coutts* having a dispute with the ship's linguist, the boat, lying alongside too long, was ordered to sheer off and be clear of the ship's side. To emphasize this order two blank charges were fired. The mandarin boat complained; the Committee reprimanded the chief mate of the ship; and the matter was dropped. On January 5, 1823, occurred an attempt at imposture.

A little after 9 o'clock this morning a small covered boat with a man paddling in front and another in the stern, conveyed an invalid of very emaciated appearance and staid alongside the H.C.S. *Earl of Balcarras*

for at least half an hour, altho frequently required to depart as well by the men in the Comprador's Boat, as by the Officers of the Ships, at length one of the men hung on by a rope towing overboard until a midshipman took a small piece of wood of about 3 Inches in length, which he threw upon the Cover of the boat, and which immediately fell into the Water without touching any one. The two Chinese immediately paddled after the piece of wood and round the bows of the Ship, and upon their arrival astern of the Ship where the Comprador's Boat was made fast, placed the body of the invalid then at the point of death into it and demanded money asserting that some person in the Ship had caused his death. The Assist. Surgeon found the Chinese still alive, but in a dying state from disease his nose and the palate of his mouth being quite destroyed.

The two men demanded 3,000 dollars as compensation. The invalid died at one o'clock, and at three a man purporting to be his father came, and likewise demanded 3,000 dollars. This was subsequently reduced to 300 dollars, but even this sum the commander refused to pay; he placed the claimants in custody and proceeded in person to Canton to report to the Committee. The charge against the ship was sufficiently grave, and if there had been a death occasioned by the act of any person on board, the situation would have been very serious. The Committee then, through the Security Merchant Poonequa, complained formally to the Viceroy, and on January 9th,

We have the satisfaction to state that the Merchants waited on the Committee this morning and announced to them that the confession of the Father of the man who died alongside the *Earl of Balcarras* fully exculpated any person in that ship from being accessory to his death.

There is no record of the sum of money which it cost Poonequa to effect this settlement. Every now and then the mandarin boats manifested a desire to annoy. This happened on January 9th, when one deliberately got in the way of a boat from the *Macqueen* which was sailing close-hauled to Second Bar. The sailors on the *Macqueen's* boat then boarded the other, whereupon all the crew of the latter, except one man, at once jumped overboard and swam ashore. Nothing further was heard of the affair.

The fire was the most important event of the season. On November 1st, at half-past nine in the evening, word was brought to the factory that a great fire was raging at a distance of a mile and a half to the north. As was customary, the fire engines of

THE CANTON FACTORIES, 1824

the factory were sent, under the charge of the steward, to aid in extinguishing the fire; but no water could be obtained, the flames spread rapidly, and the wind shifting about midnight from north-east to north it was soon apparent that the factories were in danger if the authorities did not create a fire-guard by destroying houses as yet untouched. Though a letter to the Viceroy urged this measure it was not adopted. By three in the morning it became obvious that the factories must go, and unavailing efforts were made to save at least that of the English Company, with its valuable contents. A message had been sent to Whampoa ordering up sailors from the ships; at seven a.m. some from the American ships, being nearer, arrived, and at half-past seven those from the English ships. They set to work and salved as many bales of woollens as time permitted; but about nine o'clock the British factories were in flames at five or six points, the line of fire embracing the whole of the foreign factories from the creek to Mowqua's hong on the farther side of Old China Street. For some time it was hoped that the Company's warehouse would resist the flames, but they spread from the highly inflammable shops along the Hog Lane, and by noon it was evident that all the factories must be a total loss; by three o'clock the staffs were driven to the boats even from the open ground between the factories and the river.

The Chinese losses were enormous, Puiqua and Mowqua in particular having lost heavily. The other Hong Merchants, whose warehouses were farther down river, escaped better; but the Chinese outside merchants and shopkeepers, whose shops were destroyed to the number of about seven thousand, preserved but little of their property. The report of the Committee bears strong testimony to the helplessness of the Chinese, official and unofficial, in dealing with the crisis. Of the Company's woollens the losses were as follows:

		Salved.	*Destroyed.*	*Total.*
Broadcloth . . .	Half-cloths	12,942	9,024	21,966
Long Ells . . .	Pieces	17,860	98,685	116,545
Camlets	,,	11,340	..	11,340
Other woollens . .	,,	6,085	..	6,085

From an early hour on November 3rd armed boats from the ships protected the smouldering ruins. On the 4th the treasure in the treasury, amounting to 760,000 dollars, was put in boats

under strong guards and sent to Puiqua's hong; but being afraid of attacks by armed robbers, he urged that it be taken at once to the ships at Whampoa. The staff of the Company's factory were lodged in Conseequa's hong. On the 5th the Committee wrote to the Governor pointing out the evil consequences of the neglect of their advice to create a fire-zone, and requesting that it be prohibited to re-erect the shops along Hog Lane, which were a constant danger, and that 'a space of ground should be allotted for the foreign factories without any interruption of Chinese houses'. The reply was sympathetic, and the Hong Merchants were ordered to examine into the question and report. On the 8th the Committee wrote again, asking for a remission of the duties on the woollens which had been destroyed.

The Hong Merchants found that it would be impossible to expropriate the owners forcibly, and were driven to buying out those who were willing to sell. These were few, and the prices demanded were so exorbitant that but few of the shops could be acquired—

> The Edicts upon the subject are quite a dead letter and no attention has been given to them . . . the locality is so favorable for Extortion from the Sailors that those possessors of the house not under our influence or that of the Merchants will not dispose of them.

The petition for the remission of duties was graciously received, possibly owing to the obsequious manners of Howqua. He brought to Mr. Urmston a draft for a petition which, when translated by Dr. Morrison, was found to be so cringing in its expressions that it was promptly rejected; yet when the linguist brought a copy of the Viceroy's memorial to the Throne on the subject, it quoted a petition from the Committee which was 'a verbatim copy of the Paper proposed by Howqua and rejected by the Committee'. In the petition the Committee style themselves 'foreign barbarians', and appeal to 'Heaven's Grace' dispensed by the Emperor; and the Viceroy was so moved by their abject submission that he gently suggested that the duties payable by the foreigners, 140,243 taels, should be entirely remitted; that the sums due from the Hong Merchants, Tls. 524,156, should be paid, one half next year, and the other half by instalments proportioned to their losses.

IMPORTS AT CANTON, SEASON 1822. VALUE IN DOLLARS

PRIVATE TRADE FROM ENGLAND NOT INCLUDED

Goods.	British. Company.	British. Private.	British. Total.	American.	Other Flags.	Total.
Woollens	2,590,380 [1]	..	..	483,316	..	..
Metals	191,435	..	..	270,068	..	..
Furs	..	..	..	319,231	..	..
Other Western Products	..	..	..	487,407	..	..
Western Products	2,781,815	..	2,781,815	1,560,022	..	4,341,837
Cotton	689,059	2,295,939	2,984,998	9,876	..	..
Opium, Bengal [2]	..	4,310,200	4,310,200	..	..	..
,, Malwa [2]	..	2,061,500	2,061,500	..	..	..
,, Damaun [2]	..	2,848,800	2,848,800	..	..	..
,, Turkish [2]	..	178,500	178,500	..	..	..
Sandalwood	90,960	22,716	113 676	139,408	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	146,811	146,811	110,699	..	..
Pepper	100,992	267,683	368,675	..	..	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	1,136,100	1,136,100	226,553	..	..
Eastern Produce	881,011	13,268,249	14,149,260	486,536	..	14,635,796
Total Goods	3,662,826	13,268,249	16,931,075	2,046,558	..	18,977,633
Silver	..	..	..	6,292,840	..	6,292,840
Total	3,662,826	13,268,249	16,931,075	8,339,398	..	25,270,473

[1] Including 1,314,380 dollars value of woollens destroyed in fire.
[2] Including imports at both Whampoa and Macao. (The Turkish opium probably came in American ships.)

EXPORTS AT CANTON, SEASON 1822. VALUE IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*					
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*	*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
Ships: Number	19	21	40	31	..	71
Tonnage	24,540	11,264	35,804	11,297	..	47,101
Exports:						
Tea	8,119,465	748,540	8,868,005	3,072,615	..	..
Raw Silk	270,364	1,283,990	1,554,354	25,900	..	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	378,420	378,420	3,144,036	..	..
Nankeens	100,938	367,485	468,423	627,413	..	..
Tutenague	..	23,387 [2]	23,387	..	..	..
Other Commodities	57,361 [1]	1,361,279	1,418,640	654,525	..	..
Exports	8,548,128	4,163,101	12,711,229	7,524,492	..	20,235,721
Silver	..	234,600	234,600	..	..	234,600
	8,548,128	4,397,701	12,945,829	7,524,492	..	20,470,321
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	149,011					
Factory Expenses	146,143	140,000	606,154	200,000	..	..
Ship Expenses	171,000					
	466,154	140,000	606,154	200,000	..	806,154
Cost of Investment	9,014,282	4,537,701	13,551,983	7,724,492	..	21,276,475

[1] St. Helena and Cape Stores.

[2] Tutenague, 1,799 piculs.

THE OPIUM TRADE AT WHAMPOA AND MACAO, SEASON 1822

	Bengal. Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Damán.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	*Total.* Chests.
Stock from last season . .	200	900	..	50	1,150
Imported during season . .	1,874	1,550	2,374	170	5,968
	2,074	2,450	2,374	220	7,118
Consumption	1,824	1,250	1,474	40	4,588
Stock in hand . . .	250	1,200	900	180	2,530
Value, Dollars per chest . .	2,300	1,350	1,200	1,050	

Malwa opium in the above table is the produce of the native States bought by the Company at a fixed price and sold at the quarterly sales at Calcutta and Bombay; Damán opium is the produce of the same native States, sent down to the coast through native channels, and shipped by Indian or Portuguese merchants through the Portuguese port of Damán (or from Goa).

DISTRIBUTION OF THE EXPORT TRADE FROM CANTON IN AMERICAN VESSELS, SEASON 1822

	Dollars.	Dollars.
To the United States:		
Tea, 74,448 piculs	2,722,451	
Silk, raw, 50 piculs	18,500	
Silk piece goods, 369,763 pieces . . .	3,050,536	
Nankeens, 1,070,706 pieces	607,813	
Matting, 366 rolls	12,831	
Sundries	347,451	
		6,759,582
To Europe:		
Tea, 10,298 piculs	348,567	
Silk piece goods, 250 pieces . . .	2,000	
Nankeens, 12,000 pieces	6,600	
Sundries	28,743	
		385,910
To Manila and Batavia:		
Silk, raw, 20 piculs	7,400	
Silk piece goods, 970 pieces . . .	8,000	
Nankeens, 25,000 pieces	13,000	
Sundries	80,600	
		109,000
To South America:		
Tea, 32 piculs	1,600	
Silk piece goods, 10,447 pieces . . .	83,500	
Matting, 174 rolls	609	
Sundries	184,291	
		270,000
Total		7,524,492

LXXX

SHIPPING AT LINTIN, 1823

For the season 1823 the Select Committee was composed of Mr. J. B. Urmston (President), Mr. J. T. Robarts, Sir W. Fraser, and Mr. Francis Hastings Toone. Mr. Robarts spent most of the season invalided at Macao. Mr. Toone arrived from England on August 3rd. The books were opened on February 4th with the following balances :

		Tls.	Tls.
Cr. by Silver in treasury, 115,064 dollars			82,846
Tea in stock, 9,372 piculs			212,525
Raw silk in stock, 33 piculs			8,360
Estate of Thomas Beale			110,891
Estate of Conseequa			246,852
Factory account			1,327
Loan on factories			69,602
Buildings and dead stock			38,270
Hon. Company's schooner			5,040
			775,713
Dr. to Chinese Merchants :	Puiqua	767,204	
	Mowqua	18,648	
	Puankhequa	135,789	
	Chunqua	105,129	
	Goqua	184,957	
	Five other Merchants	70,710	
			1,282,437
Debit balance			506,724

During the season the Company loaded twenty-one Indiamen of a chartered tonnage of 25,200 tons (about 29,000 tons carrying capacity) ; but the import cargoes of only twenty are included in the table at the end of the chapter. The treasury was supplied during the season as follows :

	Dollars.
Western produce imported, Tls. 2,312,848 =	3,212,288
Indian ,, ,, ,, 1,417,178 =	1,968,303
Silver imported from Bengal invoiced at Sicca Rup. 2,108,951 =	957,218
Bills on London at 4*s.* 6*d.* and 365 days	11,000
,, Bengal at 204 Sicca Rup. and 30 days	2,080,155
,, Bombay at 220 Bombay Rup. and 30 days	465,622
Certificates to commanders and officers	377,197
Remitted from Calcutta, freight, &c.	176,752
Dividend of Conseequa's estate and interest, Tl. 75,701 =	105,140
	9,353,675
Deduct debit balance at opening, Tls. 506,724 =	703,783
Net total	8,649,892

The homeward investment was invoiced at Tls. 6,216,198 = Dollars 8,633,609, in addition to stores for St. Helena and the Cape of Good Hope invoiced at Dollars 40,082. Transfers in the treasury were sanctioned to the amount of Dollars 784,269.

The usual trade figures were as follows :

	Ships.		*Cotton.*	*Tea.*	*Raw Silk.*	*Silk Piece Goods.*	*Nankeens.*
	No.	Tons.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Pieces.
English :							
Company	21	29,000	118,050	223,213	597	..	..
Private	24	18,000	137,013	17,588	2,614	21,000	860,000
American	35	13,635	..	76,142	..	350,000	250,000
	80	60,635	255,063	316,943	3,211	371,000	1,110,000

The Company's woollens, after the destruction of so large a quantity in the previous season, should have found a ready sale, but the market was depressed from two causes : the competition of private traders, especially Americans importing illicit English goods ; and a decrease in the demand from the northern and central provinces, in which disastrous floods had occasioned a great loss of wealth. The importations of the season were then sold at the following prices :

Broadcloth :	Superfine, half cloths	19,494	per yard,	Tls.	1·60
	Supers ,,	932	,,	,,	1·10
	Worsters ,,	516	,,	,,	0·90
	Long Ells, pieces	134,920	per piece	,,	6·70
	Worleys ,,	7,800	,,	,,	9·00
	Camlets ,,	12,000	,,	Doll.	23·00

For the camlets the highest price obtainable was 20 dollars, until Puiqua offered 23 conditional on his receiving a contract for 13,000 chests of Congou in addition to his previous contracts. The prices were so low and the market so dead that, of a quantity of woollens sent from Calcutta to make good the loss by fire, 21,460 pieces of Long Ells were sold to Puiqua at Tls. 5·50 per piece, while the rest was returned in order not to break the market. They were, moreover, of an assortment of colours which were not suited to the China market, the following being the proportions, which may be compared with the China proportions given in vol. iii, on p. 161:

Mazarine blue	16½
Brown ,,	14
Green ,,	14
Yellow ,,	18½
Scarlet ,,	37
	100

The woollens were not distributed in any fixed proportion. Contracts for teas were made on March 20th at the old prices according to their appreciation, in the following proportions:

	Congou definite. Chests.	*Congou optional.* Chests.	*Twankay.* Chests.
Puiqua	28,800	12,000	11,000
Mowqua	21,600	12,000	9,000
Puankhequa	21,600	12,000	9,000
Chunqua	21,600	12,000	9,000
Exchin	15,000	..	4,000
Manhop	14,400	..	4,000
Poonequa	14,400	..	4,000
Goqua	14,400	(Bohea, 10,000 piculs)	
Kinqua	15,000	..	..
Fatqua	12,000	..	..
	178,800	48,000	50,000

In addition 13,000 chests of Congou were assigned, in connexion with the sale of camlets, to Puiqua, with whom the Committee also contracted for 500 piculs of raw silk. No nankeens were shipped by the Committee in this season.

The junior merchants were unable to contract for green teas as their credit with the dealers was not good. They, on April 16th, appealed as usual for advances to enable them to pay their duties and the Consoo charges for ginseng, the Yellow River, presents, military purposes, &c.,

amounting to Tales 188,184, of which the only claims we are called upon to discharge are to

	Tls.
Manhop, Poonequa and Fatqua	88,292
Exchin, measurage of one Ship	3,258
	91,550
Goqua advance on Bohea	50,000
	141,550 or Drs. 196,600

On April 20th the Committee record the note that

Information has been obtained that the Hoppo has placed Poonequa, Exchin and Fatqua in confinement for not completing the payment of their Imperial contributions.

This brought the merchants to terms, and they came out at the close of the season in a stronger position than before—thanks

largely to the help given by the Committee ; but in the dividend paid on account of Conseequa's debt two of the firms, Exchin and Fatqua, took no share.

Conseequa was embarrassed at the opening of the season. On April 29th he wrote to the Committee that he owed only a small sum for duties ; but that for Consoo charges he owed a total of Tls. 18,800, which he could not possibly find. This being refused he repeated his request on May 23rd—

> having received his application for pecuniary assistance, considered it altogether inadmissible to accede to it, and therefore resolved to convey to him their continued determination to abstain from affording him any relief for the difficulties his conduct has exposed him to.

No further appeal came from him, and on August 5th he died. His estate was heavily involved, and on current account his debt to the Company was Tls. 308,565 ; this was assumed by the Cohong as a joint liability, to be repaid in five instalments. The first fifth was paid at once, and the second on January 26, 1824, being debited to each merchant's account—four shares to Puiqua, three shares each to Mowqua, Puankhequa, and Chunqua, and two shares each to Manhop, Poonequa, Goqua, and Kinqua.

A further liability of Conseequa was the ground on which the Company's factories had stood, to buy which the Committee had lent him Tls. 69,602, and for which they were to pay him Tls. 6,790 annually as ground rent. In October Manhop proposed to repay the Tls. 69,602 and thereby acquire the property, on condition of receiving annual rent of 10,000 dollars, viz. :

	Tls.
Sunsoon, Old Factory	950
Poho, New Factory and shops in Hog Lane .	2,800
Warehouse	3,450
	7,200

This offer was accepted at once, the title-deeds being left with the Committee, ' as we are unable to obtain any legal security '. On December 5th Manhop declared that he could not carry out his compact, as the Hoppo was making it a pretext for extorting large sums from him, alleging that his ownership was only nominal, and that he was acting merely as cloak for the English Company. Howqua then proposed that the four senior merchants

should become the purchasers; to this also the Committee agreed, as it was a matter of indifference to them who owned the land, and they asked that the son of Conseequa should be present as witness of the delivery of the title-deeds to the four merchants. That son had on December 2nd asked the Committee whether, if he carried on the firm, they would continue to give him the three shares in their business which they had given to his father; but they declined—they needed the three shares to give to those who had undertaken to liquidate the father's debts to themselves, and

the Capital of 200,000 Dlls. would be all consumed by the preliminary demands of the Hoppo and other official persons, as likewise in defraying the several debts to foreigners and Chinese which are attached to the Hong of Conseequa.

The son took his revenge by furiously attacking the Committee and Manhop; but ultimately the matter was settled and the charges withdrawn, after having produced their effect in leading the Viceroy to issue a stringent order that the factories should be in every respect the property of the Hong Merchants. The Committee had been in negotiation to extend their occupation to the Dutch factory, and had secured the consent of all concerned; and they had imported from India teak and other woods for reconstruction to a value of 56,933 rupees; but now they had to reconsider their position. Under date January 30, 1824, they record—

There are in all 14 Hongs appropriated to European Residencies, of which 8 have been rebuilt at the expence and risk of the former Holders, who pay ground Rent to the Merchants who own them at a rate varying from 10 to 12 per cent, the right of disposing of the Buildings having been considered as belonging to the parties so long as such ground Rent was paid. In consequence of the Viceroy's Edict Puiqua has purchased the Buildings in the several Hongs he owns at the sum the Parties had paid for their erection and they pay him Interest on such sums according as they have arranged. Mowqua has also arranged for the Creek Factory held by Messrs. Magniac, we have heard at 10 per Cent on the sum he repaid and standing to repairs of Roofs and Walls. What terms Howqua [Puiqua] has made we cannot learn except in the instance of the Dutch Factory, which has not yet been rebuilt—The ground Rent to remain as before at 2,244 Dollars, Mr. Bletterman to build at his pleasure with Puiqua's Funds for which he is to allow 13½ per Cent and to stand to all repairs. Chunqua and

Puankhequa have as yet made no efforts or arrangements for the houses held on their grounds and appear very unwilling to obey the orders of the Government which they consider as mere formalities and not intended to be strictly enforced.

The premises occupied by the English Company had been part of the estate of the original Puankhequa (now deceased) and belonged now to the estate of Conseequa; and on February 2nd the Committee were informed that Manhop had bought the Letsun hong for Tls. 47,640, Goqua the Hosung, Kangshee, and Tongsuy hongs for Tls. 42,500, and Puankhequa the Honam hong for Tls. 4,100, making a total of Tls. 94,240. From this the Tls. 69,602 advanced were to be repaid to the Committee, who were to pay 10 per cent. of Tls. 69,602 as ground rent. On the question of rebuilding the Committee insisted that the Viceroy's requirement should be literally adhered to, and that not only should the estimated cost, Tls. 94,400, be provided by the merchants, but that the merchants should also make the contracts and supervise the construction, the Company paying 10 per cent. on the cost as rent. On this basis the annual rent was:

	Dollars.
Ground rent	9,666
Interest on reconstruction	13,060
	22,726

In the season 1821 Howqua had been excused from acting as Security Merchant.[1] The Court of Directors disapproved of this exemption, and in August, 1823, he was informed that all the Hong Merchants must perform this duty in rotation. In October the commander of the country ship *Mermaid* complained that a fee of 700 dollars was levied on him for securing his ship. The Committee inquired of Howqua and were informed that

a considerable portion of the *Mermaid's* cargo, belonging to Parsees, had been sold by them to what are termed outside Merchants previously to any application or arrangement being made to secure the Ship. Consequently no Hong Merchant felt himself called upon to secure the *Mermaid* and that the Hong Merchants had generally declined.

The commander was thereupon informed that, under the circumstances, no Hong Merchant could be compelled to secure his ship,

[1] Cf. *antea*, p. 9.

nor could he be expected to do so without receiving compensation. This episode illustrates the tendency of the Parsees to take big risks if thereby they could obtain higher prices, which was the foundation of much of the indebtedness which had subsequently to be liquidated ; and in this practice they were followed by the Americans, who were under no control, and the private English, over whom the control was slight. These private English, permanently established in China under foreign (non-British) protection, were this season the following :

Mr. Charles Magniac, Prussian Consul.
Mr. Daniel Magniac, ,, Vice-Consul.
Mr. Thomas Dent, Sardinian Consul.
Mr. James Matheson, Danish Consul.
Mr. William Jardine.
Mr. W. S. Davidson.
Mr. Robert Berry, Swedish Consul.

Sir Andrew Ljungstedt, who had once appeared as Swedish Consul, was still in China, but was displaced as Consul by Mr. Berry, an English merchant. The American Consul was Mr. Thompson.

Their loss from the fire had depleted the resources of the Committee, and put them heavily in debt to the merchants, especially to Howqua, and they wrote to the Governor-General (Mr. John Adam, filling the interval between Lord Hastings and Lord Amherst) asking that a million dollars be sent in specie from Calcutta with as little delay as possible. In commenting on this requisition the Accountant-General informed the Secretary to the Governor-General that in the previous four seasons the bullion imported at Calcutta from China had been

1819–20	sicca rupees	4,900,000
1820–21	,,	2,900,000
1821–22	,,	3,700,000
1822–23	,,	3,923,000

and that there was no reason why the Canton Committee should not have intercepted the whole of these sums by an offer properly advertised of bills on the Bengal treasury at the par of exchange 100 dollars equal 206 sicca rupees. In response to the appeal, however, the Governor-General sent silver invoiced at 21 lakhs of rupees, including 150,000 Spanish dollars, while the rest was in

Indian bullion of many shapes, weights, and qualities; this bullion the Committee sold (and delivered outside the port) to Messrs. Magniac & Co. and Messrs. W. S. Davidson & Co., in equal shares, for 807,218 dollars. All through the season they were apprehensive lest the opium market might not furnish sufficient supplies of silver, but ultimately they obtained three million dollars against bills.

Before the end of March, 1823, the authorities began to renew their fulminations against the opium ships.

> The Merchants next presented two Chops respecting the Opium Ships which have continued for some time on the Coast, they entered into the same observations, which have been frequently recorded, attending the difficulties they would have to encounter should the local Government proceed to any extremities on the subject, we could only reply by asserting our inability to control vessels which had never entered the Port nor were in any way placed within our jurisdiction and of whose movements and plans we are entirely ignorant.

The two Chops were from the Viceroy and the Hoppo, upbraiding the Hong Merchants for allowing certain ships to loiter outside—the *Merope* which had arrived seven months, and the *Janet Hutton* three months earlier—and which were strongly suspected of smuggling opium. On April 23rd the Committee, being at Macao, record their opinion that the opium trade is so precarious that it could not be relied upon to provide funds; and they add—

> The Chinese Government who have until recently resorted to the publication of Edicts requiring the departure of the Opium Ships from hence, a short time since took the opportunity of the arrival of a Country Ship the *Pascao* to impede the progress of the Country Trade until the *Merope* quitted the roadstead, as she forthwith did. It is worthy of remark that two brigs, the one under Spanish and the other under Portuguese Colors, employed as the *Merope* for the purpose of containing Opium are permitted to continue here without any hinderance from the Chinese Government.

Besides the *Janet Hutton* and the *Merope* other British country ships are entered in the Shipping Report as opium ships—the *Eugenia*, the *Valetta*, the *Samarang* (505 tons), and the brig *Jamesina* (382 tons), in addition to the American brig *Cadet*, the Spanish brig *Quirogo*, and two Portuguese vessels. These all remained ' outside the river ', some apparently even at Macao.

Consequent on the *Topaze* affair at Lintin the Committee

inquired of the Governor-General if it would not be possible to send a truthful narrative, calculated to counteract the falsehoods of the Canton authorities, direct to Peking through Tibet. The Resident in Nipal was not hopeful of any success in such an attempt; the British officer in charge of the Eastern Frontier (of India) considered that, by the friendly aid of the Rajah of Shikumputtu, he might get a representation through once, but that a repetition would depend on the orders which might be received at Lhassa from Peking. At Canton, upon the arrival (on June 3rd) of the Company's ship *Thames*, the Viceroy sent to the Hong Merchants a mandate to inquire if she had brought the 'foreign murderers'. In April the Viceroy had forbidden the loading and departure of the *Pascao* until the opium ships should have left the coast, and now in June sent this mandate on the *Topaze*:

> The tone which is prevalent throughout the Edict is a palpable indication of the intention of the Viceroy to renew the past discussion on the subject, and as the most effectual act of hostility in his power, to lay an embargo on the commerce.

The embargo was not put in force in connexion with the *Topaze*, and the *Thames* was allowed to clear outwards on August 3rd with a full lading of tea for London; but the continued presence of the opium ships at Lintin and elsewhere was more urgent, and an embargo was laid on the trade of the port until they should go.

The opium ships did not go, and the embargo lasted until September 23rd, on which day the Committee wrote to the Company's commanders and those of the country ships:

> The discussion between ourselves and the Canton Authorities having terminated we direct that you apply for your Pilots and proceed to Whampoa.

Within two months the country trade was again stopped, but no impediment was placed in the way of the Company. At a consultation on November 21st,

> Puiqua informed the President that the Hoppo in order to procure from the Hong Merchants the sum of 10,000 Tales had endeavoured to intimidate them into compliance by stopping the Country and American Trade. . . . We required to ascertain what probability existed of a continuance to this embargo, we were informed that it was likely to be almost immediately abandoned, and the sum demanded from the Merchants would be made good to the Hoppo.

The trade was reopened, but almost at once, on December 4th, the Committee were informed that

> the Country and American Trade is again stopped by order of the Hoppo for the purpose of extracting from each of the Junior Hongs 5,000 Dollars.

This it appears was an old annual due which had been dropped for four or five years, but was now revived; but on the 9th two mandates from the Hoppo were shown to the Committee, both referring to the fact that ships had arrived without entering the river, that they were reported to be anchored at Lintin, and ordering their immediate departure. This embargo was removed on December 18th, the merchants, it is to be presumed having paid.

The opium trade had been overdone. Whereas formerly the entire Indian export had consisted of about 4,000 chests of Bengal opium sold at the Company's Calcutta sales, of which about half went to China, this had now been supplemented by an equal quantity of Malwa opium bought by the Company and resold at its Bombay sales, and a further quantity of Malwa which found a more direct outlet, outside the Company's control, through Karachi and Damán, besides the fluctuating American importation of Turkey opium. The supply brought to China was thus largely in excess of the previous demand, and prices fell steadily and rapidly through the season, that of Bengal from 2,100 to 1,050 dollars, and Malwa from 1,300 and 1,200 to 900 dollars a chest. Under the influence of this fall in price, the consumption increased to about 6,000 chests—the revived prohibition to the contrary notwithstanding.

The season was marked by a succession of minor causes of irritation, additional to those created by the affair of the *Topaze* and the opium traffic. The application to the Throne in consequence of the losses from the fire was successful, and import duties payable by the Company on undelivered woollens were remitted to the amount of Tls. 140,243; of a total of Tls. 524,156 due from the Hong Merchants, half only was to be paid in the coming season, while payment of the other half was to be effected in three or five deferred instalments according as the merchant had lost his warehouses only, or his warehouses and hong together. On March 22nd, on the eve of the factory's

departure for Macao, the merchants urged the Committee to give the authorities a more definite answer to the demand that the opium ships be sent away; and, that being refused,

> In the course of the afternoon we were again waited upon by the Merchants, who assured us that some written acknowledgement was necessary of our having received the Imperial Decision on the remission of Duties as well as of our sense of the Emperor's favor. It appeared that the Viceroy had been satisfied with the communication of the Merchants themselves but that the Hoppo had insisted upon a written document from us. We declined adopting their advice as it would in the first Instance stand as a tacit acknowledgement of the language and sentiments attributed to the Select Committee in the address as tho' it had not been fictitious—we were moreover desirous of impressing upon the Hong Merchants our strong and continued disapprobation of the duplicity practised throughout the transaction.

The Hoppo in his anger threatened to prevent the departure for Macao, and actually stopped the loading of the Chop boats; but the Committee persisted in their refusal, and the merchants, returning, said that 'as we were resolved against addressing the Govt. they would themselves do so'.

Early in March (1823) a Chinese was killed at Macao by some Portuguese by a blow intended for another.

> By a timely interference on the part of the Portuguese to satisfy the relatives of the deceased by the payment of 1,000 Dlls. previous to any report being made to the local Government the accident was adjusted.

On August 21st the butler of the factory had occasion to reprimand one of the house-coolies and, being provoked by bad language, struck him lightly. A little later, as the butler was passing, the coolie drew a dagger, darted out at him, and struck at him without wounding him. The assailant was disarmed by his fellow coolies and chased away; and the affair was reported to the Tsotang.

On December 7th, at 2 o'clock in the morning, an attempt to rob the long-boat of the *Hythe* at Whampoa was frustrated, and a sampan engaged in the attempt was seized with arms and one prisoner, the other having swum away. The prisoner was sent to the Chop-house, and (with the *Earl of Balcarras* attempt in mind) full reports were drawn up for the Committee; but nothing further was heard of the matter.

Previously to the departure of the factory from Macao to

Canton on October 10th, as Captain Cruickshanks, of the Company's ship *Farquharson*, and his wife were passing along a street in Macao on their way to dinner, Mrs. Cruickshanks being in a chair carried by Chinese bearers,

they were stopped by some low petty Mandarin Runners or Servants, their Chairmen violently seized and Mrs. Cruickshank's Chair attacked and overturned. This assault was understood to arise because of the use of Chinese Bearers. It is true that the use of Chinese Bearers to [by] Europeans is interdicted by Government orders yet for a few years past several persons of the Factory and other foreigners at Macao have had them in their employ without any difficulty of moment. It is by no means our wish to contend a point of this kind which is considered illegal and had the people in question confined themselves to the mere arrest of the bearers we could not have publickly noticed the circumstance, but attended as that act was by a Brutal Assault we consider it proper to state the circumstance to the Merchants.

A letter was thereupon written asking that the Tsotang be reprimanded for not controlling and keeping in better order the runners attached to his office.

The surgeon of the Company's ship *General Kyd* was given to understand that, in order to land two pairs of watches, it was only necessary to arrange matters with the petty official at the landing-stage. On November 20th

Manhop requested the assistance of the Committee being placed in an unpleasant dilemma by an attempt to smuggle Watches on the part of Mr. Allen [F. P. Alleyne] Surgeon to the H.C.S. *General Kyd*. It appeared that the Watches were taken from the person of Mr. Allen when landing from a boat and that altho' the business might have been arranged in the first instance yet thro' the neglect of the Linguist or otherwise it was submitted to higher authorities and Manhop was now threatened with imprisonment and an enormous fine.

The Committee had protected those on their ships from being called on to repay these large fines, and the merchants pointed out that the Committee's injunctions to refrain from smuggling

were considered as mere forms and that the several Commanders and persons in the Ships from never having been called to pay the Penalty of their misdemeanors were now more careless of offending, than if they were, like the Americans and Country Ships, satisfied the Merchants would recover from them or their owners the amount of any Extortion arising from their misconduct. . . . The Penalties were stated to increase with the duty, the Penalty on an article of low valuation being 3 times, and on one of high 20 times, the amount of the duty.

The Committee, however, always looked on these payments as being incidents connected with the system of securing, and compensated by the monopoly given to the Hong Merchants.

Dr. Robert Morrison had not gone home since he first came out in 1807, and in the interval had rendered service of inestimable value to the Company, in the preparation of his dictionary and lesson books, in acting as teacher to the writers and supercargoes of the factory, and especially in giving the Committee correct translations of documents received and sent. He now wished to take leave for a time, and in 1822 was in correspondence with Mr. William Milne, the head of the college at Malacca, to obtain competent translators for temporary service, when he learned of Mr. Milne's death. This made it necessary for Dr. Morrison to go to Malacca in person, and he returned to Macao from Singapore on August 8, 1823. He now proposed to leave China at the end of December, 1823, to leave England again in December, 1824, for Bengal, and to resume his duties in China in August, 1825. He asked that his salary might be paid to him in England; and

for the benefit of Chinese literature in England I propose taking thither and leaving there my Chinese library consisting of several thousand volumes.

Permission was readily granted for all that he wished. With the completion of the dictionary the Court of Directors had ordered that the cost of the Press should not exceed Tls. 1,500 a year. This necessitated the discharge of Mr. P. P. Thoms, the printer, and his return home; but he offered to remain for a year longer, and to run the office for the sum allowed, and his offer was accepted by the Committee.

The supercargoes have always been tenacious of old custom, but in the records of this season are found two breaches in the wall of conservatism. At a Consultation of October 18th

The Committee assembled to meet the Merchants on the disposal of the Hon'ble Company's Investment of the Season. They having been previously apprized of the particulars of our Imports as well as furnished with musters of the several descriptions of Cotton and Sandalwood imported this Season on account of the Company, the consignment of those articles with that of the lead and pepper was discussed.

Up to this date for close on two hundred years the outward lading

of ships has been their ' stock ', while the term ' investment ' was applied solely to their homeward cargoes. This is the first instance in which ' investment ' has been applied to cargoes imported at Canton. The other occurs in a letter of advice from the Resident at Singapore—

> Herewith I have the honor to transmit an account Sales amounting to Spanish Dollars 37,327 & 96 Cents.

The supercargoes at Canton, however, after forty years of contact with Americans, have not risen to the use of the term ' cent ' for the hundredth part of a dollar, and still write ' decimals ' or ' dec.'

The linguist Assing,[1] who had suffered much for the Company and had been banished to the frontier in 1810, was allowed to return to his home, and, being old and destitute, appealed to the Committee for help. It was not thought advisable to offer him any employment under the Company, and he was allowed to provide two chops of tea (each chop being 600 chests) through one of the merchants for three years, the profits to be a provision for himself and family.

In 1822 a local revolution by the Portuguese of Macao had driven from their offices the Governor (Brigadier-General Jozé Ozorio de Castro Cabral d'Albuquerque), who had been appointed from Goa, and the Dezembargador or Chief Judge, Senhor Arriaga, who had for many years been a fierce opponent of the English Company; and on March 22, 1823, these two embarked on the ship *Vasco da Gama* ostensibly for Rio de Janeiro. The Portuguese frigate *Salamander* came from Goa in July to reinstate them; but, although they appealed to the Kwangchow Fu for his support, he refused to override the expressed will of the residents. Finally, on September 23rd, at 3 in the morning, a force from the *Salamander* seized the forts dominating Macao, arrested the leaders of the revolutionary party, and placed the Bishop at the head of the government. It was expected that Senhor Arriaga would be soon restored to his former posts.

[1] Cf. vol. iii, pp. 148, 192.

IMPORT TRADE AT CANTON, SEASON 1823. VALUES IN DOLLARS
IMPORTS IN PRIVATE TRADE BY COMPANY'S SHIPS NOT INCLUDED

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other flags.*	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Woollens	2,911,328	..	2,911,328	698,810	..	..
Metals	213,390	..	213,390	633,202 [1]	..	..
Furs	..	..	..	269,443	..	..
Other Western Products	87,570 [2]	..	87,570	325,855 [3]	..	..
Western Products	3,212,288	..	3,212,288	1,927,310	..	5,139,598
Cotton	1,803,398	2,283,550	4,086,948	19,260	..	..
Opium	..	7,288,600	7,288,600 [4]	133,000	..	..
Sandalwood	72,858	37,116	109,974	67,232	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	105,850	105,850	61,100	..	..
Pepper	92,047	218,620	310,667	..	..	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	1,020,106	1,020,106	9,225	..	..
Eastern Produce	1,968,303	10,953,842	12,922,145	289,817	..	13,211,962
Total Goods	5,180,591	10,953,842	16,134,433	2,217,127	..	18,351,560
Silver	957,218	119,168	1,076,386	4,096,000	..	5,172,386
Total Imports	6,137,809	11,073,010	17,210,819	6,313,127	..	23,523,946

[1] Including quicksilver (8,210 piculs), 492,600 dollars.
[2] Out-turn of salvage from the *Regent* wrecked outward bound.
[3] Including ginseng (427 piculs), 29,890 dollars; cotton cloth, 161,918 dollars.
[4] Including opium imported into China under all flags except American.

THE OPIUM TRADE, SEASON 1823

	Bengal.	*Company's Malwa.*	*Smuggled Malwa.*	*Turkey.*	*Total.*
	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.
Stock	1,000	350	850	170	2,370
Imports	3,050	3,100	1,550	140	7,840
	4,050	3,450	2,400	310	10,210
Consumption . . .	1,850	2,050	2,030	270	6,200
Stock	2,200	1,400	370	40	4,010
Prices in dollars :					
Highest . . .	2,100	1,450	1,200	1,070	
Lowest . . .	1,180	900	900	930	

N.B. The highest prices were obtained at the beginning of the season, falling to the lowest at the close.

EXPORT TRADE AT CANTON, SEASON 1823. VALUE IN DOLLARS

Goods.	British. Company.	British. Private.	British. Total.	American.	Other Flags.	Total.
Ships: Number	21	24	45	35	..	80
Tons	29,000	18,000	47,000	13,635	..	60,635
Exports:						
Tea	8,346,712	745,217	9,091,929	3,217,645 [1]	..	..
Raw Silk	286,897	1,082,254	1,369,151	..	..	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	168,793	168,793	1,828,094	..	..
Nankeens	..	626,992	626,992	181,018	..	..
Tutenague	..	142,114 [2]	142,114	..	..	..
Other Commodities	40,082 [3]	1,281,663	1,321,745	450,392 [4]	..	..
Total Goods	8,673,691	4,047,033	12,720,724	5,677,149	..	18,397,873
Silver	..	2,618,500	2,618,500	..	..	2,618,500
	8,673,691	6,665,533	15,339,224	5,677,149	..	21,016,373
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	131,332					
Factory Expenses	158,938	184,000	663,270	212,500	..	..
Ship Expenses	189,000					
	479,270	184,000	663,270	212,500	..	875,770
Cost of Investment	9,152,961	6,849,533	16,002,494	5,889,649	..	21,892,143

[1] Tea to United States (66,851 piculs), 2,808,633 dollars.
,, Europe (9,291 piculs), 409,012 dollars.
[2] Tutenague, 10,151 piculs.
[3] Amount of invoice of stores for St. Helena and the Cape of Good Hope.
[4] Including exports to South America, 132,000 dollars.
,, ,, Java, Manila, Hawaii, 85,000 dollars.

LXXXI

OPIUM TRADE TO EAST COAST, 1824

The season 1824 opened with the Select Committee consisting of Mr. J. B. Urmston (President), Mr. J. T. Robarts, Sir W. Fraser, and Mr. F. H. Toone. On December 20th Mr. William Henry Chichely Plowden joined the Committee. Sir W. Fraser left for England on December 20th ; Mr. Robarts, who had for a long time been ill at Macao, died there on January 28, 1825, the day he was to have embarked for England. Mr. Urmston received the honour of knighthood in May, 1824. The books were opened on February 1, 1824, with the following balances :

		Tls.	Tls.
Cr. by	Silver in treasury, 63,667 dollars		45,840
	Tea in stock, 28,499 piculs		586,723
	Imports unsold : Russian imitation cloth	11,051	
	Grey broadcloth	9,179	
	British calicoes	19,683	
			39,913
	English woollens from India unsold		93,771
	Factory account		17,361
	Loan on factories		69,602
	Buildings and dead stock		38,270
	Company's schooner *Lavinia*		5,040
	Estate of T. Beale		110,891
	Estate of Conseequa		185,139
	Due from Hong Merchants		14,801
			1,207,351
Dr. to	Puiqua	857,330	
	Puankhequa	100,947	
	Exchin	111,675	
	Other Hong Merchants	113,774	
			1,183,726
	Credit balance		23,625

The Russian imitation cloth actually realized Tls. 3,888 ; the grey broadcloth Tls. 5,074 ; the remaining woollens from India Tls. 72,619 ; and the British calicoes (also in the invoices called

Madepollams) Tls. 17,321. These were all sold at a loss, but the cottons did better than the woollens; they realized (at 9 dollars a piece) more than Long Ells sold on the same day, but the respective dimensions are not given. The loan on the factory Tls. 69,602 was repaid by the Consoo.

The Company loaded for London nineteen ships all chartered at 1,200 tons, or 22,800 tons, but with a carrying capacity of about 26,500 tons; and for Quebec two ships of 1,352 tons; making a total of twenty-one ships and about 28,000 tons. The import cargoes on Company's account realized as follows:

	Prime cost.	*Laid down cost.*	*Realized.* Tls.	Tls.
Woollens . .	£562,165	£646,008	1,961,176	
Iron . . .	£13,529	£17,622	60,403	2,200,371
Lead . . .	£22,435	£26,130	95,644	
Furs . . .	£33,515	£35,577	83,148	
Cotton, Bombay . ..	Bombay rupees	882,327	436,005	
,, Bengal . ..	Sicca ,,	1,211,430	579,865	
,, Madras . ..	,, ,,	902,380	318,584	1,419,912
Sandalwood	,, ,,	119,180	40,642	
Pepper	Dollars	72,000	44,816	
		Total . .		3,620,283

The treasury was supplied during the season in the following manner:

	Dollars.
Book assets as above, net credit Tls. 23,625	32,812
Imports realized as above, Tls. 3,620,283	5,028,179
Bills on London at 365 days and ex. 4*s.* 6*d.* ℔ dollar . .	262,970
,, Bengal at 30 ,, 2·04 S. Rup. . . .	100,000
,, ,, ,, ,, 2·07 ,, . . .	1,283,423
,, ,, ,, ,, 2·08 ,, . . .	106,859
,, ,, ,, ,, 2·10 ,, . . .	1,780,545
Certificates to commanders and officers	378,719
Indian engagements and freight	529,123
Tls. 6,841,894 =	9,502,630

Transfers in the treasury were granted to the amount of 1,203,718 dollars. The investment for London was invoiced at Tls. 5,438,518, for Canada at Tls. 322,134, for the Cape at Tls. 16,000, and for St. Helena at Tls. 12,000.

The particulars of the trade during the season were as follows:

	Ships.		*Cotton.*	*Tea.*	*Raw Silk.*	*Silk piece goods.*	*Nankeens.*
	No.	Tons.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Pieces.
English:							
Company	21	28,000	106,254	215,229[1]	..	..	5,000
Private	30	21,000	194,591	17,489	3,595[2]	38,500	574,750
American	37	14,435	1,575	103,061	95	573,552	536,000
	88	63,435	302,420	335,779	3,690	612,052	1,115,750

Certificates were again issued, uniformly to their maximum amount, as follows, viz.:

	Dollars.
Commander	14,778
Chief Officer	1,478
Second Officer	985
Third Officer, Surgeon, Purser	739
Fourth Officer, Asst. Surgeon	493
Fifth Officer, Boatswain, Gunner, Carpenter	246

The firms of future years are beginning to emerge. Among those to whom bills were issued were Messrs. Charles Magniac & Co., Messrs. Thomas Dent & Co., Messrs. Russell & Co., the last an American firm. These were in addition to Mr. Jardine and Mr. Matheson.

While the chop of Congou (black tea) consisted of 600 chests, a little more or less, the chop of Twankay (green tea) consisted of 500 chests, more or less. In this season, owing to great demand for the United States and the Company's requirements for Canada, the green tea was a rising market, and the tea dealers who had contracted with the Hong Merchants made a practice of keeping back a part of each chop, alleging that the deficient chests had been wrecked on the way down. The Hong Merchants were consequently in a position of difficulty in executing their contracts with the Committee; and the latter were in many cases compelled to accept chests which were not up to muster.

Up to December 10th the Committee bought green teas as follows:

Twankay	46,790 chests, at Tls.	26–30	a picul.
Hysons	9,069 ,, ,,	46–60	,,
Hyson Skins	4,139 ,, ,,	26–32	,,

[1] Including 8,846 piculs to Canada direct; invoiced cost, Tls. 322,134; commission paid to supercargoes, Tls. 7,033.

[2] Nanking silk 1,065 piculs at 400 dollars.
Canton ,, 1,157 ,, 280 ,,
,, ,, 1,373 ,, 70 ,,

The Americans further found it to their advantage, with their smaller ships, to ship their teas in packages of 25, 10, or 5 catties each, instead of the whole chest of about 60–65 catties for Congou and about 50–55 catties for green teas. The smaller boxes packed closer, but they had the disadvantage of adding to the cost of the tea,

about Tls. 1·50 a picul, if in 25 catty boxes
„ 3·00 „ „ 10 „
„ 6·00 „ „ 5 „

In the absence of instructions to ship smaller packages to London, the Committee contented themselves with following the American practice to the extent of providing 1,687 of the 25-catty boxes for the consignment to Canada.

The whole chests of Bohea shipped this season averaged 140 catties, half-chests about 75, and quarter-chests about 40.

Teas bought after the close of the season, when all contracts had been filled and the ships laden and dispatched, were styled ' winter teas ', and were always black tea which would keep over until the next season. They were cheaper than ' contract teas ', Boheas usually 2 taels and Congou 4 taels a picul ; thus a chop of Congou from Chunqua was weighed and paid for as winter tea at Tls. 22 a picul, but on March 1, 1825, was shipped by a belated ship, the *Canning*, and was consequently rated as contract tea at Tls. 26 a picul, and the difference in cost was paid to Chunqua :

1 chop, chests 610, Peculs 387, at 4 Tls. = Tls. 1,548.

The fire of November, 1822, had cleared the market of woollens, but so great an inducement had led to large importations by American ships and on private account by British ships, so large as to break the market. The supplies in the season 1824 were accordingly reduced in quantity, and the Company's regular importations of Long Ells, 101,000 pieces, were sold in proportion to each merchant's share in the tea contracts at Tls. 6·90 a piece, the price obtained in 1823 having been only Tls. 5·80 ; the special importations of 5,000 pieces Broad Ells and 10,000 pieces of Aurora Long Ells were sold to Puiqua at Tls. 7, against Tls. 6 in 1823. Puiqua also took 10,000 pieces of camlets at 23 dollars each, but made it a condition that he should supply, to the

amount of 6,000 chests at contract prices, the first of any additional Congou that the Committee should require.

The Court sent out a quantity of furs of a prime cost of £33,515, and a laid-down cost of £35,577, which realized the equivalent of £27,716 only. The Committee note the taxation which the purchasers had to pay :

	Sea otter. Tls.	*Land otter.* Tls.	*Beaver.* Tls.
Price realized at Canton per 100 . .	2,160	310	342
Import duty at Canton	141·500	1·836	6·360
Kwa-hao (fees payable)	12·000	6·000	6·200
Transit dues in Kwangtung . . .	9,640	3·890	3·890
Dues Canton to Shensi	11·000	5·720	5·720
Total, Canton to Shensi . . .	174·140	17·446	22·170
Duties and fees at Canton . . .	163·140	11·926	16·450
Fees at Kanchow (Kiangsi) . . .	5·900	5·900	5·900
„ Hangchow (Chekiang) . . .	13·000	2·000	2·800
Dues Canton to Soochow . . .	10·000	5·000	5·000
Total, Canton to Soochow . .	192·040	24·826	30·150

The junior merchants were in difficulties as usual, and they made their customary appeal for help to meet their obligations for deferred duties and for assessments on the Consoo fund. These appeals the Committee recognized without much difficulty to the extent of the measurage of ships and the duties, but they tried to put a drag on the claims for contributions for official purposes. This support had now been given for ten years, and its only result was to enable the Chinese merchants to persist in conduct of which the Committee disapproved and which was detrimental to the Company's interests. In commenting on the market for woollens the Committee record in a Consultation of January 31, 1825 :

In addition to the consignment received ℔ *Moffatt* and *Juliana* [the two ships for Canada] two American vessels have recently imported consignments of Woollens from Europe, of which the following is an abstract :

℔ *Isabella* from Liverpool :	Camlets . . .	1,200 pieces
	Broad cloth . . .	1,500 „
	Long Ells . . .	2,200 „
		4,900 „

℔ *Ann & Hope* from Holland : Dutch Camlets 1,400 pieces.

The cargo of the *Isabella* is said to have been regularly entered upon the Canton Custom House books, but we have been credibly informed that an arrangement has been made by one of the Junior Merchants for the sale of the Camlets, by which, in consideration of raising immediately about ⅔rds of the amount of duty, he has rendered himself responsible for the whole, which when the period for payment arrives, it is most probable, he will be totally unable to liquidate.

Such conduct is every now and then referred to in the records, and was at once a measure and a cause of the embarrassments of the merchants. At a secret Consultation of March 15, 1825, on the question of reducing the standard prices paid for tea, the Committee make the following minute:

The embarrassed circumstances of the seven Junior Hongs during the ten years just elapsed, and the policy of our assisting to discharge their debts to European creditors, without the intervention of the Chinese Government, have hitherto prevented the adoption of measures, calculated to reduce their established rates of profit. To diminish their gains, and to raise a fund for the liquidation of their existing debts, at one and the same time, were objects of an opposite and incompatible nature: thence it was necessary to select one, to the temporary relinquishment of the other of these measures. In the choice made by the Select Committee during the course of years in which the payment of these debts has been in progress, we consider that, under all the circumstances then in force, a sound judgement was displayed. But whilst we hold this opinion in relation to the past, we decidedly think, that if the bankruptcy of one or more of the present Junior Merchants were represented to us, as depending on the grant or refusal on our part, either of pecuniary aid to any considerable extent, or of a pledge of a certain share of the Company's trade for a given period, true policy would compel us to leave them to their own resources.

Having come to this decision they then discussed the matter with Howqua, through whom the merchants had been financed for the past few years. He resisted strenuously; but the Committee were in a strong position, having then in stock, at the close of the season, a supply of winter teas equal to half their estimated requirements of Congou for the next season (1825). The standard contract prices were, according to appreciation, 26, 27, 29, and 30 taels a picul; and for their contracts they proposed to leave the 30-tael appreciation unaltered, but to reduce each of the others by 1 tael.

Opium continued to attract the attention of the authorities —at Canton, to which the ships bringing it did not now come.

The ships *Valetta* and *Jane* arrived from Calcutta on March 28th and proceeded to Lintin, remaining there, as was now customary. The pilots protected themselves by reporting their visit on board—the reports being consistently in the following form:

but the Captain was villainous and wicked, and not only refused to give his reasons for anchoring, but when I proceed to examine what goods he brought, as well as the list of his guns and men, he also refused to tell me this; adding that he was not now going to Whampoa, and that he should consult his own convenience in his future movements.

The Hoppo sent a mandate to the Hong Merchants, transmitted to the Committee on April 23rd, ordering the ships away and stating that he was in communication with the Viceroy and the Governor on the subject of ordering the civil and military authorities to enforce their departure. This was common form, adopted almost word for word for the obdurate commander of the *Jamesina* arriving in September, and, it may be assumed, for every arrival at Lintin, and became the means of reporting the arrival of an opium ship. Besides remaining (during the north-east monsoon) in the anchorage at Lintin the opium ships had now struck out boldly on a new path. On May 1st it was recorded—

Arrived the Country Ship *Eugenia* from the Eastward, having been employed upon the Coast of China in the Opium trade. The *Merope*, another Country Ship for three years stationary in the neighbourhood of Lintin, is now engaged in a similar voyage to that of the *Eugenia*. A traffic in Opium has been carried on to some extent by smaller vessels upon the Eastern coast of the Empire during the last twelve months; the difficulty of carrying on an intercourse with the Natives is said to encrease in proportion to the number of vessels engaged, every obstacle being opposed by the Mandarines to prevent a communication between the Chinese boats and the vessels thus engaged. No opposition whatever has been made to individuals landing daily at the towns or places adjacent to the anchorage of their Ships, provisions are freely tendered, and more than ordinary attention is reported to have been displayed by those Chinese with whom any communication has taken place. This vessel is reported to have delivered 160 Chests of Opium for the principal part of which payment was made in Sycee Silver. She was provided with Shroffs or money brokers.

This traffic in uncharted waters was not without its risks. On March 4th the *Merope* struck an unknown rock, against which her commander noted a protest on May 28th, on which day

Intelligence has been received of an affray between some Chinese

engaged in the Opium Trade upon the Confines of this Province and the Mandarin Officers in which it is reported that one of the latter party lost his life. The Viceroy is understood to have despatched a considerable force to the neighbourhood for the purpose of bringing the Offenders to Punishment.

The Company's ships were still strictly prohibited from carrying opium to China, and the instructions to every one loading at an Indian port contained the customary paragraph to that effect. One commander had a difficulty in this connexion. The *London*, on the berth at Bombay to load cotton for Canton, was suddenly ordered to take troops to Calcutta and to receive her lading there; and her commander, Captain J. B. Sotheby, who had bought Malwa opium at the Company's sale at Bombay, asked permission to take it on his ship for carriage to Penang or Singapore, 'under an obligation not to take it into the port of Canton', and to pay the purchase money into the treasury at Canton. He was given permission to carry his opium to Singapore, but was reminded that at Calcutta his further movements would be subject to the direction of the Governor-General in Council: his request to be allowed to pay the purchase money at Canton was refused. It was the evident intention of the commander to dispose of his opium in Chinese waters, but before arriving at Whampoa; and it is equally evident that the authorities of the Company would do nothing to further that intention. And yet it was on the proceeds of the sale of opium in China that the Select Committee mainly relied to obtain funds for the provision of their homeward investment of tea. As the Secretary to the Government at Fort William wrote—

Over the trade in Turkey we can exercise no control: over that of Malwa, the cultivation being free and established in the territories of a number of different states, the control we can exercise is of a limited character. The success of our restrictive measures can be hoped for only by diminishing the advantages of the trade of our competitors—

and that could be done only by keeping down the price of the Company's Bengal opium. The Committee had to consider this in fixing their rate of exchange on Bengal, also the competing advantage of shipping silver bullion to Calcutta. In the two previous seasons they had granted bills at 204 sicca rupees, but the result had been so meagre that they had been obliged to borrow from Mr. Magniac and Mr. Dent, and were heavily in

debt to Puiqua: to these the charge for interest had in two seasons amounted to Tls. 73,473. They accordingly raised the rate to 207, at which exchange they obtained 1,283,423 dollars; as sycee continued to be shipped, they later raised it to 210, obtaining 1,780,545 dollars; and at the close of the season obtained a small sum at 208.

The American competition, by buyers each working for himself, was rapidly sending up the prices of tea.

Mowqua gives the following as the usual average of an American cargo as furnished by him:

500 to 800	chests	Hyson, formerly costing	42 to 44,	now Tls.	48
1,000 to 2,000	„	Young Hyson	„ 34	„	48
1,000 to 2,000	„	Hyson Skins	„ 23 to 25	„	28
50 to 100	„	Gunpowder or Imperial			

Silk Piece Goods.

These Teas at these prices are considered of fair quality. The Twankays are sifted, part made into Young Hyson, and remainder into Skins by being mixed with Wo Pings, etc. and packed into square boxes.

The price of Twankays went up in consequence, and the Committee had great difficulty in getting their contracts filled.

The rebuilding of the factories progressed rapidly. The site had been acquired by the Hong Merchants collectively, they having repaid to the Company the sum of Tls. 69,602 (96,667 dollars), which the Committee had lent to Conseequa to enable him to acquire it. The cost of rebuilding the Company's factory was estimated at 150,000 dollars; some surviving buildings were taken over at 10,000 dollars, and some teak imported from India at 7,000, making a total for land and buildings of 263,667 dollars. The Committee insisted that the Hong Merchants must carry out literally the Viceroy's formal order, that they must build the factories and rent them to the foreigners; and for this the Company was to pay 10 per cent. annually as rent, or 26,367 dollars, divided between eight Hongs for the land, and six for the houses.

During the season two ships arrived at Macao under the Arab flag. On the arrival of the first her commander applied for a pilot. When there was some delay in sending one, he represented her to be British; but he was unable to produce any papers. The Hoppo then reported the arrival to Peking, and an

imperial rescript was received that the ship or ships of the current season were to be allowed to trade, but that in future seasons no such indulgence could be allowed.

Ordinarily the crews of wrecked ships were treated with great consideration by the Chinese authorities, but in the case of the country ship *Lackassar*, wrecked on the coast of Hainan, her crew could not obtain permission to go from Macao to Whampoa, where they could obtain a passage to Bombay.

> It appears that the Mandarines of Macao oppose the departure of the crew under the plea that they must all be collected together, but as several of them have already entered on board Ships at Whampoa, and as the plea is a mere attempt at extortion, the Commander has requested our influence to obtain an order from Canton for their release.

Complaint was made by Sir James Urmston to the Hong Merchants, whose interposition was effective. The Committee took active steps to protect the Security Merchants against the extortion practised when an act of smuggling was detected. They sent identical letters to the commanders enjoining on them the greatest care, and added—

> in the event of detection, by the Officers of the Chinese Government, of any act of smuggling, the offending party and ship will be held liable for the payment to the Security Merchant, of whatever penalty may be incurred by the infraction of the regulations of the Port.

With the Portuguese authorities at Macao the relations of the Committee were peculiar. With the Governor, appointed from Goa, under the shadow of the Company's power in India, they were usually on good terms, subject always to the necessity of being extraordinarily punctilious and polite; but with the Senate and its officials, filled with the pride of local ignorance and commercial jealousy, they usually had trouble. On December 16, 1824, they learned by a letter from Macao of the death of their old enemy, Senhor Arriaga, Dezembargador (Chief Judge) and Custom Master until dispossessed by the revolution of two years before; but ten days earlier they had received a communication, quite in the customary epistolary style of his party, from Francis, Bishop of Macao, who had been made acting Governor by the counter-revolution of one year before. The following is a translation:

I have received your letter of the 4th instant in which is found—' We persuade ourselves that Your Excellency will on receipt or at sight of Captain Tween's proposal immediately deliver up the sailor in question [a deserter from one of the Company's ships]. We will however feel obliged if you will secure him until a fit opportunity offers for his being conducted on board the H.C.S. *Sir David Scott*.' These expressions are improper, without motive, they are insulting to my individual character, and more particularly so to that which I hold in the Royal name of Governor of Macao. These expressions indicate an animosity, which only renders it necessary (as I feel obliged) to lay it before the August presence of my Sovereign, so injurious (or insulting) is it towards him. In respect, however, to the subject of the sailor, of which your letter treats, it is out of place, for the said sailor is a Frenchman, a native of Havre de Grace, as he proves from undoubted documents. On the other hand he came to claim the protection of the Portuguese flag in tears, and desperate, even to threaten to kill himself, should this Government be base enough to deliver him up. This Government, however, from decency, honor, and humanity, cannot violate the person of a freeman, particularly of a foreigner, in the British service.

The Committee returned to the Right Reverend Governor a reply in polite terms expressing their regret that the tenor of their letter should have been misunderstood and misquoted, and they referred rather suggestively to the numbers of cases in which there had been returned from British ships slaves who had run away from Macaoese owners.

Certain papers seriously affecting the character and credit of Senhor Arriaga were held in escrow, to be released on the payment of a note for 100,000 dollars, due in January, 1825, by the Baron de St. José de Porto Allegré to the trustee of the creditors of Thomas Beale. The money was ready in the hands of Messrs. C. Magniac & Co., but the death of Senhor Arriaga removed all reasons for urgency ; and the Baron made another disposition of the money. Mr. Daniell, Secretary to the Select Committee and the Company's representative on the Board of trustees, went to Macao, but was for some days unable to see the Baron owing to the illness of the latter. He thereupon wrote, announcing his intention of protesting the note, with a warning of the injurious effect that this would have on the Baron's credit, not in Macao alone, but in Calcutta and Bombay as well ; and after a few days the Baron recovered from his illness and expressed his surprise that his intentions should have been so much

misunderstood—he had never swerved from meeting his obligation to the trustees in bankruptcy.

In the records of this year we have the spelling Singapore adopted consistently for the first time.

The accounts of the Press for a few years past show the following annual expenditure :

	Dollars.
Mr. Thoms, salary	1,250
House rent	125
Other expenditure, average	5,253
	6,628

Mr. Thoms, the printer, returned to England by the Company's ship *London* in March 1825.

In writing to the Governor-General the Committee complained that they could not enforce the delivery of manifests by the country ships, and were in consequence unable to give the usual trade statistics. The particulars from which the following tables for 1824 are compiled were given in the Diary for 1825.

IMPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1824. VALUE IN DOLLARS

IMPORTS IN PRIVATE TRADE BY COMPANY'S SHIPS NOT INCLUDED

Goods.	*British.*					
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*	*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
Woollens	2,859,798	..	2,859,798	640,126	..	..
Metals	216,727	91,738	308,465	504,593 [2]	..	..
Furs	115,482	..	115,482	270,669	..	..
Other Western Products	..	2,095	2,095	365,346 [3]	..	..
Western Products	3,192,007	93,833	3,285,840	1,780,734	..	5,066,574
Cotton	1,842,536	3,378,315	5,220,851	31,500	..	..
Opium	..	5,450,000	5,450,000 [1]	287,700	..	..
Sandalwood	56,447	110,000	166,447	66,942	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	374,520	374,520	76,076	..	..
Pepper	66,922	261,000	327,922	35,700	..	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	1,228,535	1,228,535	158,903	..	..
Eastern Produce	1,965,905	10,802,370	12,768,275	656,821	..	13,425,096
Total Goods	5,157,912	10,896,203	16,054,115	2,437,555	..	18,491,670
Silver	..	63,356	63,356	6,524,500	..	6,587,856
Total Imports	5,157,912	10,959,559	16,117,471	8,962,055	..	25,079,526

[1] Opium under all flags except American.
[2] Including quicksilver, 6,452 piculs, 374,216 dollars.
[3] Including cotton piece goods, 154,388 dollars ; ginseng, 6,039 piculs, 181,170 dollars.

EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1824. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	British. Company.	British. Private.	British. Total.	American.	Other Flags.	Total.
Ships: Number	21	30	51	37	..	88
Tons	28,000	21,000	49,000	14,435	..	63,435
Exports:						
Tea	351,635 [1] / 7,598,610	948,330	8,898,575	4,584,874	..	..
Raw Silk	..	846,070	846,070	38,950	..	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	325,755	325,758	2,968,854	..	..
Nankeens	..	446,059	446,059	347,910	..	..
Tutenague	..	7,614 [3]	7,614	..	..	..
Other Commodities	36,039 [2]	1,481,824 [4]	1,517,860	560,533	..	..
Total Goods	7,986,284	4,055,652	12,041,936	8,501,121	..	20,543,057
Silver	..	1,743,357	1,743,357	..	..	1,743,357
	7,986,284	5,799,009	13,785,293	8,501,121	..	22,286,414
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	140,338					
Factory Expenses	165,530	148,000	642,868	234,000	..	..
Ship Expenses	189,000					
	494,868	148,000	642,868	234,000	..	876,868
Cost of Investment	8,481,152	5,947,009	14,428,161	8,745,121	..	23,163,282

[1] Investment for Canada.
[2] Investment for St. Helena and Cape.
[3] Tutenague, 564 piculs.
[4] Including sugar, 79,848 piculs, 791,355 dollars.

DISTRIBUTION OF AMERICAN EXPORTS FROM CANTON, SEASON 1824

		To United States.	*To* Europe.	Total.
Tea	Piculs	89,846	13,215	103,061
Raw silk	,,	74	21	95
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	571,846	1,706	572,552
Nankeens	,,	532,000	4,000	536,000
Matting	Rolls	3,380	..	3,380
Sugar	Piculs	3,749	..	3,749
Cassia bark	,,	8,634	779	9,413
Firecrackers	Boxes	4,620	..	4,620
Other Commodities	Dollars	95,015	1,165	96,180
To Sandwich Islands, California, &c.	,,	..	..	200,000
Total Exports	,,	7,716,444	584,677	8,501,121

OPIUM STATEMENT

MADE OUT BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT CANTON

	Bengal.	*Company's Malwa.*	*Smuggled Malwa.*	*Turkey.*	*Total.*
	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.
Stock, April, 1824	2,200	1,400	370	40	4,010
Imported	1,231	2,816	2,216	146	6,409
	3,431	4,216	2,586	186	10,419
		5,980			
Consumption	3,001			100	9,081
Stock, March, 1825	430	822		86	1,338
Prices in dollars per chest:					
Highest	1,400	920	920		
Lowest	950	600	600		

LXXXII

SEASONAL MIGRATION TO MACAO, 1825

For the season 1825 the Select Committee was composed of Sir James Brabazon Urmston, Kt. (President), Mr. Francis Hastings Toone, and Mr. William Henry Chichely Plowden. The books were opened on March 18th with the following balances :

	Tls.	Tls.
Cr. by Silver in treasury, 194,429 dollars		139,989
Tea in stock, 67,780 piculs		1,385,144
Factory account		23,723
Buildings and dead stock (plate, &c.)		20,926
H. C. Schooner *Lavinia*		5,040
Estate of Thomas Beale		110,891
,, Conseequa		123,426
Due from Fatqua		4,845
		1,813,984
Dr. to owing to Puiqua	292,979	
,, seven other merchants	317,564	
		610,543
Credit balance		1,203,441

In this season the Company loaded nineteen ships for London, of 24,826 tons builder's measurement, and three for British North America (two for Quebec and one for Halifax of about 2,200 tons) ; in addition two ships brought cargoes of cotton from Calcutta, one chartered only for the voyage to Canton, the other burned in port and a total loss after discharging her import cargo. The import cargoes of these twenty-four ships and of the two Canada ships of the season 1824 realized as stock for the season 1825 the following amounts :

	Prime cost.	*Laid down cost.*	*Realized.* Tls.	Tls.
Woollens	£719,588	£801,811	2,466,733	
Lead	£36,326	£40,859	132,419	
Iron	£21,873	£25,688	89,160	2,776,368
British calicoes	£774	£858	1,895	
Furs	£31,152	£32,880	86,161	
Cotton, Bengal ..	Sicca rupees	1,340,669	645,593	
,, Madras ..	,, ,,	585,329	226,728	
,, Bombay ..	Bombay ,,	1,053,233	493,369	
		2,979,231	1,365,690	1,415,462
Pepper ..	Dollars	81,702	49,772	
		Total .	. .	4,191,830

During the season the funds at the disposal of the Committee were as follows :

	Dollars.	Dollars.
Credit assets as above, Tls. 1,203,441		1,671,446
Imports realized as above, Tls. 4,191,830		5,821,989
Bills on London, 4*s.* 6*d.* and 365 days	44,565	
,, ,, ,, ,, 182 ,,	78,669	
,, Bengal, 208 and 30 ,,	624,462	
,, ,, 204 ,, 30 ,,	400,608	
,, ,, 203 ,, 30 ,,	137,465	
		1,285,769
Indian engagements (cotton bonds)		796,861
Certificates to commanders and officers		111,488
Total		9,687,553

equivalent to Tls. 6,974,038. The transfers in the treasury amounted to 218,117 dollars. The investment was as follows :

	Tls.
For London	4,877,981
,, Quebec	300,285
,, Halifax	106,473
,, Cape of Good Hope	28,915
,, St. Helena	8,471
	5,322,125

The factory expenses amounted to Tls. 77,008. The supercargoes' commission on the investment for Quebec and Halifax was Tls. 8,233.

The particulars of the trade of the season were as follows :

	Ships.		*Cotton.*	*Tea.*	*Raw Silk.*	*Silk Piece Goods.*	*Nankeens.*
	No.	Tons.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Pieces.
English :							
Company	22	27,026	102,881	209,780 [1]	..	..	7,000
Private	39	27,300	270,286	19,229	6,985	33,712	489,000
American	42	16,150	195	96,162	545	619,614	721,000
	103	70,470	373,362	325,171	7,530	653,326	1,217,000

In a list of prices current sent to the Court of Directors is the following item :

> Freight to Europe £40 per Ton.
> ,, to United States 40 Dollars per Ton.

This entry is significant of the difference between a monopoly and free competition.

[1] To England 197,412 piculs ; to Canada, &c., 12,368 piculs.

On May 28th the Committee, then at Macao, record the arrival of 'the *L'aimable Créole* French Ship', but there is nothing to show that she went to Whampoa, and no particulars of her cargo are given. A Dutch ship also arrived, but her trade is not recorded.

The teas, when bought, were paid for according to the actual weight on the scales, but the chests were supposed to contain a standard quantity varying for each kind of tea. These standards were now as follows:

Black teas.	lb.	*Green teas.*	lb.
Bohea, whole chests	184	Twankay, Hyson Skins (60 catties)	80
,, half-chests	108½		
,, quarter-chests	62	Young Hyson (70 ,,)	93⅓
Congou, chests (64 catties)	85⅓	Hyson (50 ,,)	66⅔
Souchong, chests (50 catties)	66⅔		

The Company's teas were shipped only in chests of these sizes; except that in this season the custom of the Americans was followed in filling the indents for Quebec and Halifax, and a certain quantity of Hyson and Young Hyson was sent in smaller packages (3,000 boxes of 10 catties, 2,380 boxes of 25 catties), partly to satisfy the demand of the market, but chiefly as being more convenient for loading ships of small size. By the Indiamen a certain quantity of tea in small boxes was allowed in the private trade of commanders, on condition that it was packed in corners in which the Company's teas could not be placed.

In loading the Indiamen, next above the dunnage (which was included in the commander's privilege, free of freight) the lowest tiers of tea consisted always of Bohea, the cheapest and the most thoroughly cured. To each ship was ordinarily sent 500 whole chests, 140 half-chests, and 150–300 quarter-chests. To the *Canning* in the season 1824 a double supply was for some reason sent, viz. 1,000 whole, 140 half-, and 600 quarter-chests, and her commander reported on their stowing as follows:

	Whole.	*Half.*	*Quarter.*
In ground tier	280	56	53
In second tier	504	47	83
Leaving for third tier	216	37	464

The Committee, consequent upon this report, decided to alter the proportions for 100 whole, 27 half-, and 57 quarter-chests.

In the privileged trade of its commanders and officers the Company had always shown the greatest liberality. The tonnage allowed on the homeward voyage, when space was most valuable, was ordinarily 99 tons on each ship ; and the space on the outward direct voyage was presumably not less. In this season, as may be seen in the table at the end of the chapter, woollens, in which the Company traded, were allowed in the private trade to the sale value of 383,600 dollars. On the ships making the double voyage (London to India, India to China, China to London) commanders were allowed to ' take up ' from port to port two-fifths of the net tonnage, after deducting kentledge and commander's privilege, and were also privileged to buy on credit from the Company's warehouses a lading to be paid for after sale at Canton. On representation to the Court of Directors, certain charges which were formerly added to the cost were now altogether remitted, as follows :

	Season 1824.	*Season* 1825.
Cotton, per Factory Maund, Rup. . . .	14.7.3.0.	14.7.3.0.
Interest 90 days at 6 per cent. per ann. . .	3.5.62½	..
Add 10 per cent. on above	1.7.5.66	..
Price if paid at Calcutta	16.2.2.28½	14.7.3.0
Sea insurance (2 per cent. reduced to 1 per cent.)	5.1.96½	2.3.75
Price if paid at Canton	16.7.4.25	14.9.6.75

This reduction of more than 12 per cent. in the price of a commodity in which the Company also traded was very significant of the way in which the Company treated its servants.

During the eighteenth century the competition which the English Company had to meet was that of the French, Dutch, Danes, and Swedes. This had disappeared, and the competition now to be met was that of the Americans. They supplied their own needs in tea ; they carried to continental Europe the tea which was ultimately to be smuggled into England ; and they provided the channel by which English manufacturers and merchants engaged in the direct trade with China which was reserved by its charter to the English Company. The Committee reported to the Court of Directors that, during the season 1825, there arrived the following quantities of woollens by American and Dutch ships, of which the American importa-

tions were of English manufacture illicitly exported from England :

	Broadcloth. Pieces.	*Long Ells.* Pieces.	*Camlets.* Pieces.
By American ships . .	11,554	13,170	4,510
,, Dutch ,, . .	116	..	3,000

The colony of New South Wales obtained its tea from England, so far as any official and authorized importation was concerned ; but the Americans had not neglected this chance of turning an honest penny, and for a few years past they had transported tea direct from Canton to the colony. In this season Mr. R. Aspinall, of the firm of Aspinall, Browne & Co. of Sydney, applied for a licence to ship 3,000 chests by the country ship *Elizabeth* direct from Canton. The Committee granted the licence, but they asked for instructions in case application should be made to ship a greater quantity. To their own country the Americans shipped teas of designations which did not correspond to the English designations.

About 13,000 Chests of Tea have been exported on American Ships under the denomination of Hyson, but not more than one third or fourth part of it was of a quality which would be classed by us under that name, the residue being Twankay. The greater part of the American Trade at this Port is conducted by Agents, furnished with abundant funds or available Credits in Houses in Great Britain & the United States and as it does not appear that they are limited by their Principals in the prices to be given for the Teas required, competition by us would only send the cost up for both parties.

This explained why, as the Court complained, the Americans obtained their Hysons at under 50 taels a picul, while the English Company paid upwards of 60 taels for Hysons, and around 30 taels for Twankays.

The usual letter requiring vessels engaged in the opium trade to leave the coast was received by the Committee on May 16th.

We have received a letter from the Hong Merchants accompanying an Edict from the Hoppo requiring the immediate departure of the Country Ship *Nearchus* from Lintin where she remains engaged in the Opium Trade. This letter being of a similar description to those usually issued subsequently to the arrival of any vessel in China, not proceeding to Whampoa, we do not consider it necessary again to address the Hoppo on the subject having upon several occasions informed him of

our inability to exercise any control over British Vessels not entering the River.

This attitude of aloofness was always maintained by the Committee; but the Chinese officials, who openly denounced the traffic, covertly levied their assessments on it. On January 30, 1826, it is recorded that a letter was forwarded to the Bengal Government

by the Brig *Venus* which will sail in a few days from Lintin, at which island many of the Vessels engaged in the Country Trade now remain during their stay in China without coming further up the river. Every facility is there afforded to the Opium Traffic and smuggling transactions to a considerable extent in other articles are carried on. A Vessel frequently remains there until a cargo of Opium is delivered and a lading of Rice has been obtained which according to the fiscal regulations lately established in this Country gives an exemption from Port charges, but as the Chinese have but an imperfect knowledge of a ships capacity, deceptions have on several occasions been practiced by the quantity of Rice not nearly equalling the extent of Tonnage of the vessel on which it was laden. Some instances have occurred of a cargo of rice the produce of the Country being smuggled on board of vessels at Lintin from Macao and the adjacent islands and ultimately brought to Whampoa and forming a protection from the Port Charges. . . . The fees formerly paid to the Officers of Government for their connivance have been very materially diminished, the Opium Trade has nearly entirely forsaken Macao and a security has been given to it at Lintin which it has never previously possessed.

On March 5th the Committee record a minute expressing their opinion that

the consumption of Opium in China continues progressively increasing and from the facilities which are afforded to the Traffic by the ships which now remain throughout the year at Lintin, the interruptions to which it was formerly exposed have in great measure ceased to exist. Within the last ten years we believe the quantity consumed in this Country has nearly doubled in amount.

The diminution in the opium trade at Macao had seriously embarrassed the Baron de St. José de Porto Allegré and the trustees of the estate of Thomas Beale. In January, 1825, the Baron had made difficulties about payment of his note for 100,000 dollars,[1] and in the spring he went to Calcutta. Before he left Macao he gave notice that he was a creditor of T. Beale and

[1] Cf. *antea*, p. 97.

would henceforth push his claims; and while in Calcutta he assigned to his creditors all his tangible property; but he at once wrote to Macao, 'asserting that the assignment of his property to his creditors in Calcutta had been executed under compulsion and contrary to his will'. Then, while still in Calcutta, he died, leaving his affairs tangled up with his obligations to the trustees of T. Beale, his debts to traders in Macao and in Calcutta, and his obligations to the Portuguese Government. Messrs. C. Magniac & Co. as agents for the trustees, had 135,820 dollars in their hands for account of T. Beale, and this sum, until a decision could be obtained from the Court of Lisbon, it was proposed on December 15, 1825, to deposit in the Company's treasury.

The junior merchants in April, 1825, made their usual appeal for help to pay their duties and their assessments for Consoo charges. In April, 1826, there fell due to be paid the customs duty on imports between October, 1824, and October, 1825 (Taokwang 4th year 8th moon 25th day to 5 y. 8 m. 25 d.), the following sums:

	Tls.		Tls.
Puiqua . . .	87,324	Poonequa . . .	65,373
Mowqua . . .	32,713	Goqua . . .	12,921
Puankhequa . .	21,771	Kinqua . . .	97,262
Chunqua . . .	52,564	Fatqua . . .	11,723
Manhop . . .	72,283	Exchin . . .	43,771
			497,705

Of these, the senior Chunqua died during the year, but the firm was solvent, and the sons carried on. On June 18, 1825, the Committee learned that

> the Hong of the Merchant Exchin has been formally declared insolvent by the Chinese Govt.; and its effects have been taken possession of by the Officers of the Hoppo to defray a portion of the duties due by the Hong. Some relations of Exchin's waited upon Mr. Toone to request the pecuniary assistance of the Committee, which was decidedly refused.

This bankruptcy left the Committee undismayed; at that date Exchin owed them 382 dollars only, and, foreseeing trouble, they had arranged that the winter teas, bought from him in the previous March, should be deposited in the warehouses of the senior merchants.

Goqua had conducted himself well and had restored the

fortunes of his house in recent years; but on January 2, 1826, finding that his advanced age and declining health made it unlikely that he would recover from the illness from which he was then suffering, he made proposals for transferring his business to his son and a relative who had been his 'head purser' for some time. The Committee, well satisfied with Goqua's conduct of his affairs, were willing to allow the old firm to continue under the new heads; but the Hoppo proved more rapacious than usual and made difficulties, in the midst of which Goqua died. A month later, on February 3rd, the new heads asked for a payment to them before the close of the Chinese year (February 6th) of the sum of 230,000 dollars; and the Committee, finding that Goqua had then a credit on the books of Tls. 197,911 = 274,876 dollars, at once acceded to the request.

The residents at Canton outside the English Company were in April, 1825, the following:

Mr. H. Magniac, Prussian Consul.
Mr. T. Dent, Sardinian Consul.
Mr. A. Robertson, Sicilian Consul.
Mr. Goddard, Austrian Consul.
Messrs. D. Beale, (James) Matheson, A. Matheson, Cullen White (probably Mr. Cullen and Mr. White), and several Parsee merchants.
Mr. Fisher, American Consul (Mr. B. C. Wilcocks returned to his post later in the season).
Several American private Agents.
Mr. Van Canegham, Dutch Vice-Consul.

One member of the factory joined the number of 'privates' during the season; Mr. Robert Inglis obtained leave in April, 1825, to take a trip to New South Wales, and after his return he resigned his position in the Company and joined the firm of T. Dent & Co. The Committee expressed their dissatisfaction with his conduct.

The President having, as usual, undertaken the charge of the treasury, and 'Mr. Toone having expressed his wish to retain his situation as Superintendent of Exports, and Mr. Plowden that of Superintendent of Imports', the President then assigned their duties to the rest of the staff. To the supercargoes, paid by commission, the following assignments were made:

Mr. C. Millet : Deputy Superintendent of Exports.
Mr. J. Bannerman : In charge of the Office.
Mr. C. Marjoribanks : Secretary.
Mr. J. F. Davis : Chinese Secretary and Deputy Superintendent of Imports ; as Chinese Translator paid Dollars 2,083 a year.
Mr. James Frederick Nugent Daniell : In charge of Comprador's accounts.
Mr. Thos. Charles Smith : Accountant. As Chinese student £100.
Mr. John Jackson : First Consultation Book and to weigh and receive teas.

The writers were to write up the books and to weigh teas :

Mr. Robert Inglis : three years' standing, £300 ; as Chinese Student, £100.
Mr. John H. Astell : first year, £100.
Mr. John G. Thornhill : ,, £100.
Mr. H. T. Ravenshaw : ,, £100.
Mr. Henry M. Clarke : ,, £100.

Other members of the factory were as follows :

Rev. Henry Harding : Chaplain, £1,000.
Mr. Ball : Tea Inspector (salary £2,500). Went to England.
Mr. Reeves : Deputy Tea Inspector ; £500 to May 27th ; £1,000 thereafter.
Dr. Pearson : Surgeon ; £1,300 ; Table Allowance Dollars 1,000.
Dr. Livingstone ; Surgeon ; £1,000 ; Table Allowance Dollars 1,000.
Mr. Black : Bengal Native Assistant ; Dollars 1,200.
Mr. Smith : ,, ,, ,, ,, 800.
Richard Markwick : Steward ; £100.
Edward Lane : Butler ; £100 ; for acting as Clerk of the Chapel, Dollars 100.

The President had the general direction of the Company's affairs, and, so long as he could carry with him one of his two colleagues, he decided on all questions that came up ; and customarily he controlled the treasury. On January 25, 1826, Messrs. Toone and Plowden recorded a minute :

> On the 14th instant the President, who acts as Treasurer, left Canton for a few days and sent the Keys of the Treasury to Mr. Toone, by whom they were locked up until the 17th, when the Chinese Afow who has been employed for 10 years as Cashier came to him and demanded the

Keys of the Treasury on the part of the President. They were given to the Chinese enclosed as usual in a cloth wrapper. In less than half an hour Afow returned to Mr. Toone with the Keys and pointed out that the end of one of them (belonging to a Bramah lock) was crushed in so as to be useless in its then state and that it was whitened with specks of cheenam or mortar [putty]. Afow then went away, caused the Key to be expanded, and having made a payment of cash from the Treasury, restored the two bunches of Keys to Sir James Urmston as usual. . . . On the same day on which these occurrences happened Mr. Toone received intimation from a quarter which he was not at liberty to mention that greater vigilance on the part of the Treasurer than had been practised of late years would be prudent, as it was currently reported abroad among the Chinese that Afow had been in the habit of privately removing money from the Treasury for the purpose of placing it at Interest in the money shops of Canton.

The two junior members thought that some further precautions ought to be taken, while the President ' professed a conviction that there was no cause for distrusting the correctness of Afow '. It was ordered that the cash should be checked on a date a few days off ; and it was arranged with Puiqua and Mowqua that they should send some small sums into the treasury,

in order that Afow might have the opportunity of introducing cash on his own account into the Treasury during the period that it was open for the reception, shroffing and weighing of the Merchants money.

The checking was carried out most carefully and the cash was found to be 1,081,000 dollars, which was the balance shown in the cash account. New regulations were, however, issued ordering the procedure in receiving and paying money and for the custody of the balances, the first clause of which prescribed that

When the charge of the Treasury shall be undertaken by a Member of the Committee, one of the Junior Members of the Factory shall be nominated as Sub-Treasurer.

At the same time an indent was sent to London for new doors to the inner and outer treasuries, new padlocks, and sets of weights for convenient weighing of 1,000 dollars = 718 taels at one time.

From time to time the question arose—what is a tael ? or what is a dollar ? In this season both arose. In May, 1825, a mandate was issued by the Hoppo to the merchants fixing the relative value of dollars of the mints of Mexico and Granada (Nicaragua), both of which had in 1821 declared their independence of Spain. The Hoppo found that the Granada dollar was

Tl. 0·00222 inferior to the Mexican, while usually passing at Tl. 0·040 or 0·050 below it, owing to the fact that the Mexican was better known; and he ordered that in future it should be accepted at Tl. 0·002 discount.

The distinction made by the Chinese in Dollars is between the Fan-mien (*foreign face*) or as it is vulgarly termed Kwei-mien (Devils face) which is the old Mexican Dollar and the Kow-tseen which Epithet is given to the Granada Dollar for the large G with which it is impressed being supposed to bear a resemblance to a *Hook* (Kow). According to the Hoppo's Edict the Mexican is considered superior to the Granada Dollar by 2 cash (Tl. 0·002) while the objection to the latter from its novelty has frequently reduced it to a discount of 4 or 5 candareens.

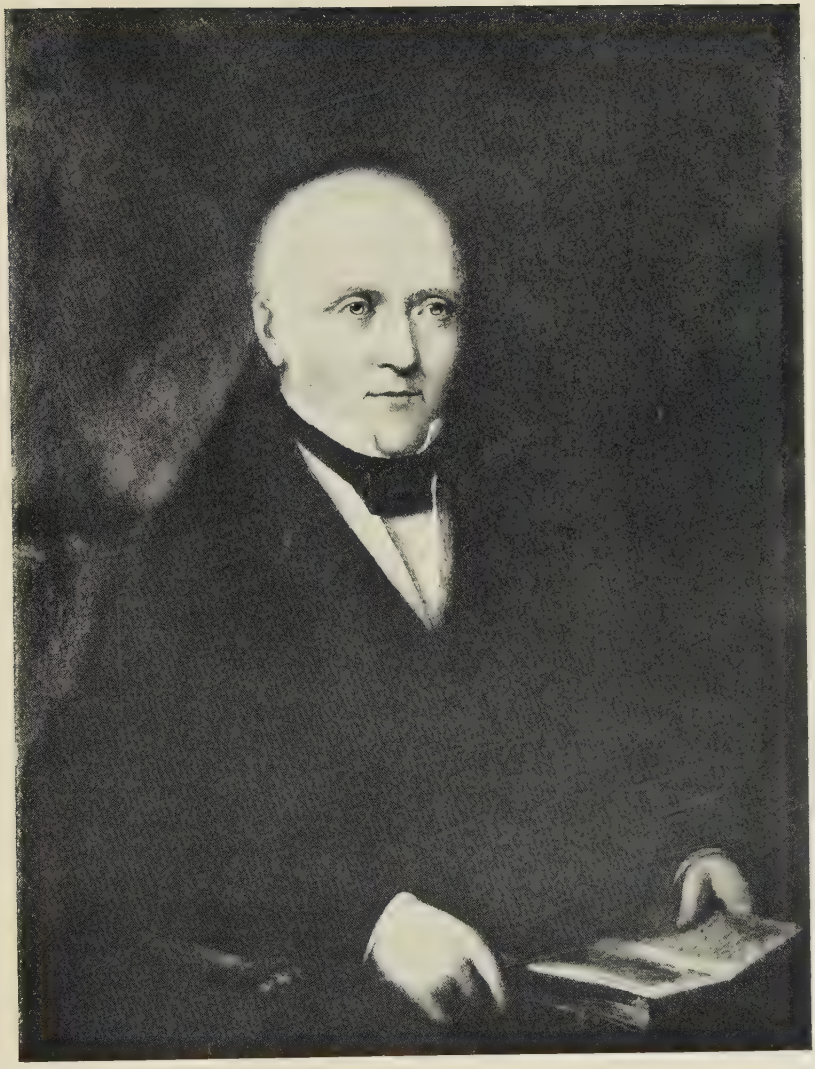
The other matter was a complaint by the Tea-men of Anhwei to the Namhoi Hien that the Cantonese Hong Merchants had reduced the weight of the tael of silver.

We, Merchants of Gan-hwuy Province, bringing Tea to Canton to sell to the Hong Merchants, originally found the Steel-yards for weighing tea, and the Scales for weighing silver, correspondent to the ancient standards; but in the progress of years, though the Steel-yards (by which they deliver Tea to the Hong Merchants) have remained unaltered, the weights used in the Scales (through which they receive silver from the Hong Merchants) have become gradually lighter. The deficiency at first was Tls. 1·800 per cent, and at length became Tls. 2·500 until, in the 24th year of Kea-King (1819) the Cohong established, as a rule, that it should be fixed at 2 Tales ⅌ Ct. with a proportion of 20 Tales per Cent in broken Dollars.

The Hong Merchants declared that the offenders were invariably the outside merchants and the shopkeepers; and the Hien issued a proclamation enjoining on all and sundry to be of good behaviour.

The Committee had no great dispute with the Chinese in this season, but they had a number of small annoyances. In one respect they held a privileged position—that of addressing the Chinese officials in the Chinese language. The Americans had in September addressed such a communication to the Viceroy, who at once returned it with a reprimand and a flattering reference to the English, on which the Committee comment as follows:

We record an Edict from the Viceroy to the Hong Merchants in which the exclusive right of the English Nation to address the Chinese Government in the native character is distinctly acknowledged. The



SIR JAMES BRABAZON URMSTON, Kt.

Application of the Americans was for indemnification for losses sustained by the wreck of one of their vessels . . . it would seem by the terms and tenour of this Edict that the Americans had very far from succeeded in elevating their national character in the estimation of the Government and the course which they pursued in the case of the homicide some years ago [ship *Emily*, 1821] has in all probability only tended to lower and degrade it. While their submission accomplished the immediate object of having their trade restored to them it has left an impression which must ultimately be injurious to their commerce and which will be remembered on all occasions of appeals by them to the Chinese Government either for justice or redress of grievances.

In the early morning of December 24th the Company's chartered ship *Royal George* was discovered to be on fire at her moorings at Whampoa, and in a short time was a total loss. No life was lost, but no one of the 18 officers and petty officers and 127 seamen on board saved anything but the one suit of clothes he stood in; her import cargo had been landed and was saved; she had taken in tea, 5,070 piculs, prime cost Tls. 119,515, which was lost. A little later a correspondence was conducted by Sir James Urmston and Mr. B. C. Wilcocks, the American Consul, in which the latter expressed the resentment of the American sailors at the remarks made on their alleged slackness in coming to the aid of their English brethren, and the former disclaimed any intention of being rude, but he politely yet firmly maintained the substantial accuracy of the remarks which had been made. The correspondence was quite good tempered in its language, but both parties continued at the end to hold the opinions with which they started.

The return to Bengal of the crew of the country ship *Lackassar*, wrecked on the coast of Hainan, had a further complication. They were at Macao put on junks to be sent up to Canton, and on March 20th

we were informed that the Junks had arrived within a mile of Canton, and that on board one of them was Mrs. Morley the wife of the Chief Officer of the *Lackassar*, who had been ordered to Canton by the local Officers of Macao, at which place she had remained on shore for several days. We noticed to the Hong Merchants the necessity of this lady being immediately relieved from the situation in which she was placed, and that the Conduct of the Mandarins at Macao had evinced them to be ignorant of the existence of any Government regulation prohibiting foreign females from visiting Canton.

The very next day permission was given for Mrs. Morley to be put on board a ship at Whampoa; and the Committee ordered the commanders of the *Good Success* and the *Lord Castlereagh* to receive the crew on their ships.

On April 10th, as a boat of the *Lord Castlereagh*, then in Macao Roads, was leaving Macao with vegetables, she was boarded by a boat from the Chinese custom-house on the quay manned by twenty armed men. The *Lord Castlereagh's* boat was then towed to the custom-house, her crew remaining passive, their exemplary conduct being witnessed from the shore by their own captain, and by Sir James Urmston and several other members of the factory. The reason for the outrage was a refusal to pay an extortionate demand for duty on the vegetables. The Committee sent a protest to the Viceroy, who replied that, on investigation, the charges were found to be incorrect: but the persons against whom the charges were brought were dismissed from their posts.

The Court of Directors were concerned for the health of the crews of their ships, and wrote to the Committee to see if there were any way of avoiding the numerous deaths which occurred during the stay of the ships at Whampoa. Their own suggestion was that the ships should not go up above Second Bar until October was well on; but the Committee were of opinion that the establishment of a hospital would be better. The ideal would be a building on shore at Danes Island, easy of access to the patients and the ships' surgeons at Whampoa; but to such an acquisition of property the Chinese authorities would never consent. The alternative would be a hospital ship moored near the Brunswick Rock or at any other suitable place, and served by the ships' surgeons in rotation. An application to the Viceroy for a hospital on Danes Island met a prompt refusal. To a further appeal the answer was returned that the sick might be carried to Macao or the factories at Canton; that 'old custom' which restricted the foreigners to those two places could not be upset, and

> moreover the Season is now cool and there is no violent heat to prevent their being cured on board ship.

The Committee reported their failure and asked for further instructions from the Court.

On May 31st (the factory being then at Macao) an address was

presented to the Hoppo by private British and other foreigners to complain of the great expense attending the passage between Canton and Macao, and

> to obtain the sanction of the Govt that the use of Fast Boats, to proceed thro' the inner passage, may be legalised under a reasonable diminution in the Scale of Fees and Duties. . . . The principal difficulty to contend with is the very exorbitant demand in Duties and Fees that the Officers of the Hoppo wish to exact upon the issue of a License for a Fast Boat when granted to any applicant.

An unfavourable answer was returned, and on June 9th Mr. Magniac, with a party of thirty-six foreigners, went into the city bearing an address for the Viceroy; but, losing their way, they entered the yamen of the Quong Heep, the military officer in command of the troops in the prefecture of Kwangchow. He sent for the Hong Merchants, who discussed the matter with the foreigners and tried to mediate, but without success; and in the end the Hong Merchants bribed the foreigners to leave the matter in their hands on condition that they paid all fees and charges on the passage by Chop Boats, leaving to the foreigners only the boat-hire; and the Hong Merchants were to try their best to obtain permission for the use of Fast Boats, with a reduced scale of charges. This was the beginning of trouble. The Hiehtai (Quong Heep) reported that a body of foreigners had burst in a disorderly manner into his yamen, but that, overawed by his dignity and dismayed at their own audacity, they had then withdrawn, leaving in the hands of the Hong Merchants a petition to the Viceroy. This document was of course returned to the Hong Merchants by the Viceroy, who asked some pertinent questions—How could so many foreigners assemble without the knowledge of the merchants? and similar questions. The head merchant and the other six to whom the factories belonged were to be thrice recorded as guilty of a high offence; the porters and housekeepers of the factories were to be loaded with heavy collars (cangue); the officer in charge at the Tsinghai Gate was punished with forty blows of the bamboo; the soldiers of the guard severely beaten and cashiered. The Hong Merchants were in future to make a monthly return of the foreign residents in each factory, and of the movements of captains and mates; and foreigners who had completed

their business were to be hurried back to Macao or to their ships.

Let all improper combinations between foreigners and the compradores be searched out and prevented. Again let a Superintendent be placed over each foreign Factory, and let his name be registered, that in the event of any offence being committed this person may be seized, examined and punished.

A few days later the decision of the Viceroy and Hoppo was made known, that, providing that application for a permit continued to be made through the customary channels (which meant that the customary fees continued to be paid to the Hoppo's officers), there was no objection to the substitution of Fast Boats for the slower and more expensive Chop-Boats.

The English Committee thereupon sent a note to the Viceroy, expressing the gratitude of the foreign community for the favour that had been accorded, but pointing out that the real grievance —the excessive cost of the passage—had not been dealt with; and they sent a detailed statement of the cost of one Chop Boat from Canton to Macao, which may be summarized as follows:

	Dollars.	Dollars.
Hire of Chop Boat		100·00
Fee of Chop or License		6·00
Fees and gratuities under 33 heads, about		334·00
Total, about		440·00
If silks carried: Chop	2·00	
Fees and gratuities	45·30	
		47·30
Total, about		487·30

in addition to any duties that might be levied on the passenger's effects or any merchandise carried. To this the Viceroy returned no direct reply; but on September 7th the Committee record that—

We are happy that the application of the foreign Residents in China to withdraw the interdiction on the use of Fast Boats between Canton and Macao as well as to obtain the removal of the exorbitant duties and arbitrary imposts on Chop Boats, has proved perfectly successful, and a new rate of charges on a very reduced scale has been established and is now actually in operation. This is perhaps one of the most material innovations on Customs and Usage, which has for many years been accomplished in this country, and in addition to the reduction in the

charges which has taken place, it is of great importance to have the amount accurately defined and limited by the authority of a Government Edict. To the Hong Merchants whose inclination would lead them to retard rather than facilitate the communication between Canton and Macao, we owe the old system which has existed for half a century. To the present favourable disposition of the Viceroy who appears to have been solely governed by a principle of justice, we are indebted for its abolition although confirmed by prescriptive usage and long continuance. Previously to this period the Fast Boats were altogether an illegal conveyance, the fees at the Chop Houses were indefinite, and the duties levied in many instances exorbitant, but these have by the late Edict been entirely abolished. . . . We cannot but consider the abolition of any restriction of this nature in China to be an object of very great importance and which while it removes a source of very considerable expence and inconvenience is an acknowledgement on the part of Government that the claims of justice will be listened to even in opposition to long established Custom.

The text of the Viceroy's proclamation is not recorded, but from the above comment it appears that it was decisive in its tone, that it was meant to be obeyed, and that it was obeyed. This was not always the case in China ; and the Committee were soon to find that it was not true in the present instance, when the sharp edge of the Viceroy's injunctions had become blunted by the lapse of time.

THE IMPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1825. VALUES IN DOLLARS

IMPORTS IN PRIVATE TRADE BY COMPANY'S SHIPS NOT INCLUDED

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Woollens	3,089,286	57,620	3,146,906	774,622	..	..
Metals	285,444	25,200 [2]	310,644	462,727	..	..
Furs	118,947	8,890	127,837	258,235	..	..
Other Western Products	2,632 [1]	18,000	20,632	344,036 [4]	..	..
Western Products	3,496,309	109,710	3,606,019	1,839,620	..	5,445,639
Cotton	1,951,914	4,275,826	6,227,740	3,802	..	..
Opium	..	9,782,500 [3]	9,782,500	..	..	..
Sandalwood	..	72,000	72,000	32,518	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	357,000	357,000	..	..	..
Pepper	69,128	236,300	305,428	..	..	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	867,542	867,542	174,891 [5]	..	..
Eastern Produce	2,021,042	15,591,168	17,612,210	211,211	..	17,823,421
Total Goods	5,517,351	15,700,878	21,218,229	2,050,831	..	23,269,060
Silver	..	..	..	5,705,200	..	5,705,200
Total Imports	5,517,351	15,700,878	21,218,229	7,756,031	..	28,974,260

[1] British calicoes, 658 pieces for the Company.
[2] Quicksilver, 420 piculs.
[3] Including opium under all flags both to Lintin and Macao.
[4] Including cotton piece goods, 240,736 dollars; ginseng, 3,357 piculs, 100,710 dollars.
[5] Including rice, 49,993 piculs, 99,986 dollars.

THE EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1825. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*					
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*	*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
Ships: Number	22	39	61	42	..	103
Tons	27,000	27,300	54,300	16,153	..	70,453
Exports:						
Tea	8,213,143	873,961	9,087,104	4,485,788	..	..
Raw Silk	..	2,068,250	2,068,250	250,700	..	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	269,694	269,694	2,550,561	..	..
Nankeens	..	509,375	509,375	500,950	..	..
Tutenague	..	3,900 [1]	3,900	..	..	..
Other Commodities	..	1,518,906 [2]	1,518,906	964,563 [3]	..	..
Total Goods	8,213,143	5,264,086	13,477,229	8,752,562	..	22,229,791
Silver	..	4,341,000	4,341,000	..	..	4,341,000
	8,213,143	9,605,086	17,818,229	8,752,562	..	26,570,791
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	129,600					
Factory Expenses	196,500	273,000	798,100	197,000	..	..
Ship Expenses	199,000					
	525,100	273,000	798,100	197,000	..	995,100
Cost of Investment	8,738,243	9,878,086	18,616,329	8,949,562	..	27,565,891

[1] Tutenague, 300 piculs.
[2] Including sugar, 89,000 piculs, 679,000 dollars.
[3] Including sugar, 22,240 piculs, 188,879 dollars.

DISTRIBUTION OF EXPORTS BY AMERICAN SHIPS FROM CANTON, SEASON 1825

			Value. Dollars.	Dollars.
To United States:				
Tea	Piculs	85,419	3,957,408	
Raw Silk	,,	434	199,640	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	565,455	2,496,402	
Nankeens	,,	664,000	464,800	
Sugar	Piculs	18,510	157,335	
Cassia bark	,,	9,023	198,306	
Matting	Rolls	2,783	13,915	
Sundries	Value	..	163,132	
				7,650,938
To Europe:				
Tea	Piculs	10,206	509,784	
Raw Silk	,,	111	51,060	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	16,343	71,483	
Nankeens	,,	15,000	6,750	
Sugar	Piculs	2,545	21,472	
Cassia bark	,,	807	16,947	
Sundries	Value	..	207,360	
				884,856
To South America, Manila, &c.:				
Tea	Piculs	537	18,596	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	37,816	148,432	
Nankeens	,,	42,000	29,400	
Sundries	Value	..	220,340	
				416,768
	Total			8,952,562

OPIUM STATEMENT FOR THE SEASON 1825

	Bengal.	*Company's Malwa.*	*Damán Malwa.*	*Turkey.*	*Total.*
	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.
Stock, April, 1825	430	822		86	1,338
Imported	4,500	4,000	1,500	?	10,500
	4,930	6,322		?	11,838
Consumption	3,463	6,270		550	10,283
Stock, March, 1826	1,467	52		?	? 1,555
Prices in dollars per chest:					
Highest	1,050	880	} Av. 570		
Lowest	750	590			

PRIVATE TRADE OF THE COMMANDERS AND OFFICERS OF TWENTY COMPANY'S SHIPS IN THE SEASON 1825

Goods.		*Quantity.*	*Value.* Dollars.	Dollars.
IMPORTS :				
Broadcloth	Yards	9,300	15,800	
Long Ells	Pieces	29,400	294,000	
Worleys	,,	2,080	21,000	
Camlets	,,	2,400	52,800	
English Products				383,600
Cotton Cloth	Pieces	2,532	20,255	
Raw Cotton	Piculs	74,455	1,265,635	
Tin	,,	2,062	51,500	
Pepper	,,	14,895	119,160	
Sandalwood	,,	574	7,000	
Betelnut	,,	17,760	88,800	
Rattans	,,	6,395	35,175	
Sundries	Value	..	142,500	
Indian products				1,730,025
				2,113,625
EXPORTS :				
Tea	Piculs	12,761	383,000	
Raw Silk	,,	1,519	554,500	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	15,020	120,135	
Nankeens	,,	92,000	73,600	
Sundries	Value	..	10,150	
			1,141,385	

LXXXIII

THE SMUGGLING TRADE OUTSIDE THE BOGUE, 1826

For the season 1826 the Select Committee was composed of Sir J. B. Urmston (President), Mr. F. H. Toone, and Mr. W. H. C. Plowden. On the arrival of Sir W. Fraser in September, he joined the Committee as second member. On the departure of Sir J. B. Urmston and Mr. Toone to England on November 26th, the Committee was composed of Sir William Fraser (President), Mr. W. H. C. Plowden, and Mr. Charles Millett. The books were opened on March 6th with the following balances :

	Tls.
Cr. by Silver in treasury, 34,175 dollars	24,606
Tea in stock, 78,065 piculs	1,633,571
Dead stock (Schooner, Tls. 5,040)	28,572
Teak timber	15,260
Factory account	11,514
Estate of Thomas Beale	110,892
Account of Conseequa	61,713
Due from Puiqua	132,738
	2,018,866
Dr. by owing to Hong Merchants	568,815
Credit balance	1,587,681

During the season the Company loaded thirty-one ships (36,398 tons) with teas for London, and three ships (about 1,600 tons) with teas for Quebec and Halifax. The stock was provided as follows :

	Dollars.
Net credit balance as above, Tls. 1,587,681	2,205,113
Imports on Company's account as shown in table of trade at end of Chapter	5,871,172
Bills on London : Exch. 4*s.* 6*d.* and 183 days	715,169
4*s.* 3*d.* and 183 days	1,750,315
Bills on Bengal : Exch. 203 and 30 days	748,598
Certificates to commanders and officers	416,015
Indian engagements (cotton bonds)	447,052
	12,153,434

The Company's investment was as follows :

	Tls.
To London	7,012,959
„ St. Helena	7,882
„ Cape of Good Hope . . .	31,913
„ Indian ports	8,501
„ Quebec	261,837
„ Halifax	133,635
	7,456,727 = 10,356,565 dollars.

So far as is recorded, the principal features of the trade of the season were as follows :

	Ships.		*Cotton.*	*Tea.*	*Raw Silk.*	*Silk Piece Goods.*	*Nankeens.*
	No.	Tons.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Pieces.
English :							
Company .	34	38,000	133,042	307,088	..	..	..
Private .	51	36,000	342,735	22,434	4,186	60,000	239,200
American .	19	7,034	1,020	64,321	260	303,885	308,700
Dutch . .	5	2,948	..	..	..	..	..
French . .	2	1,500	..	..	..	..	..
Danish . .	1	750	..	..	..	..	..
	112	86,232	476,797	393,843	4,446	363,885	547,900

Of the Dutch ships, one came no farther than Lintin, discharging and taking her export cargo there.

In addition to the above the Committee record that on July 27th there arrived at Macao

the *Brilliante* South American Schooner from San Blas being the first occasion on which the independent flag has been seen in China, her commander however having been informed that considerable difficulties might be made by the Chinese to the recognition of the right of Trade of any vessel under foreign colors to which they were unaccustomed it is his intention to proceed to Whampoa under the Spanish flag.

The South American San Blas is in Argentina ; but the port indicated is more likely to have been San Blas on the western coast of Mexico.

The market for woollens was always unstable, and the Chinese demand was to some extent artificial ; but the consignments being delivered usually in proportion to the quantity of tea bought, the trade partook of the nature of barter, and there was not usually any fight over the prices. In this season the

market was dull, and the Committee had to accept a demand from the Hong Merchants to lower the prices :

	Former price. Tls.	*Present price.* Tls.
Broadcloth, Superfine, per yard . . .	1·650	1·550
Super ,, . . .	1·100	1·050
Worster ,, . . .	0·950	0·950

With so dull a market the competing importations were small. Only one American ship, the *Nautilus*, brought any English woollens, in the following quantities :

Broadcloth, Superfine . . .	2,298 pieces.
Scarlet Long Ells	3,440 ,,
Camlets	2,060 ,,
Bombazeen	1,800 ,,

This importation also was sold at a loss :

In corroboration of the statements of the Merchants it is proper to observe that the Importation of Woollen Goods per American Ship *Nautilus* from England (the only consignment of the sort this season) has after some difficulty been sold at the very heavy loss of 40 per cent on the Invoice cost.

In cotton piece goods the Company was equally unfortunate, though the prices realized gave a smaller proportion of loss than in previous years. In this season of 1826 the import of cotton goods was already considerable :

Imported on account of the Hon'ble Company . .	6,400 pieces
,, by commanders of Company's ships . .	6,000 ,,
,, by Dutch ships	2,000 ,,
,, by American ship *Nautilus* . . .	7,600 ,,
,, by American and others	2,000 ,,
	24,000 ,,

Of this importation, some or all of the last 2,000 pieces may have been of American weaving, but it is most probable that all of the remaining 22,000 were of English weaving. Three years before, in the season 1823, the importation on the Company's account had been 2,700 pieces ; and Manhop had expressed his readiness to take double that quantity in 1826 ; but now, confronted by a Company's importation of 6,400 pieces, and a total of 24,000, he declared that he could only afford to give these prices :

1st Sort	3,000 pieces	. .	10 dollars
2nd ,,	1,000 ,,	. .	9 ,,
3rd ,,	400 ,,	. .	8 ,,
4th & 5th Sorts	2,000 ,,	. .	4 ,,

Even so he would lose by the amount of the duty, one dollar a piece, and some other charges. This was the best offer obtainable and was accepted, ' although it would entail a loss of about 10 per cent. on the consignment '.

On December 10th the principal purchases of green teas were made, the appreciation, prices, and quantities of Hysons and Hysons Skins being as follows :

	Hyson.			*Hyson Skins.*		
	Tls.	Chops.	Chests.	Tls.	Chops.	Chests.
Middling good . . .	..	..	..	34	1	30
Good middling @ mid. good .	64	1	108	..	..	..
Good middling . . .	62	3	295	32	5	196
Middling @ good mid. . .	60	1	100	31	6	204
Middling	58	10	1,000	30	12	475
But mid. @ middling . .	56	16	1,539	28	13	506
But middling . . .	54	31	3,061	27	24	1,038
Good ord. @ but mid. . .	52	25	2,453	26	20	834
Good ordinary . . .	50	27	2,683	25	21	844
Ordinary @ good ord. . .	46	27	2,697	23	11	516
Ordinary	..	..	..	22	11	787
Ordinary @ very ord. . . .	..	..	..	20	11	784
		141	13,936		135	6,214

It will be observed that the chop of Hyson is uniformly close to 100 chests, while the chop of Hyson Skins is on the average 46 chests.

Bohea whole chests contained 184 lb. of tea, half-chests 108 lb., and quarter-chests 62 lb. The supply for this season was 29,000 piculs of Canton Bohea and 11,500 piculs of Fukien Bohea. The Court had forbidden the use of quarter-chests for the Fukien leaf, and the transport over the Meiling Pass made it inadvisable to use whole chests ; so that portion was ordered to be packed, 9,000 piculs in half-chests and 2,500 piculs in Congou chests (of 60 catties = 80 lb.). The Canton Bohea was then packed in 19,800 whole chests and 3,564 quarter-chests, which was about the proportion found suitable on the *Canning*.[1]

On the departure of Mr. Ball, tea inspector, for England the Court intimated that he would not be replaced, Mr. Reeves being

[1] Cf. *antea*, p. 104.

then the only tea inspector in the Company's factory at Canton; but to encourage the members of the staff to learn the art of tea-tasting, they authorized the payment of £100 a year to any of the juniors who qualified; and they asked for the opinion of the Committee on the subject. The Committee in their individual minutes were unanimous in declaring that the constant presence of two inspectors was essential; and they assented to Mr. Reeve's plea that he should have no more than one pupil. Mr. Jackson was accordingly selected from those who offered themselves, and at the close of the season he was adjudged to be 'fully entitled to the remuneration ordered by the Hon'ble Court in their letter of the 31st March, 1826'.

The allowance of £100 for proficiency in Chinese was this season paid to Mr. Thomas Charles Smith and to Mr. H. M. Clarke, a writer of two years' standing.

On February 6, 1827, the Committee were requested by Mr. J. F. Davis to record the birth of his son at Macao on January 13th; and by Mr. W. H. C. Plowden the birth of his daughter at Macao on December 8th.

Dr. Robert Morrison returned in November to his post of Interpreter and Instructor in the Chinese Language, but the Court had ordered that his appointment was now to be for three years only. Dr. Morrison felt 'considerable uneasiness and disappointment at the prospect', and this feeling was shared by the Committee.

We ourselves cannot advert to this subject without calling to mind, that by the steady perseverance of Dr. Morrison in the study of Chinese, when the assistance of native teachers was only to be got by stealth, at great personal risk to the teachers themselves, some of the principal difficulties by which the Chinese student was formerly met, in the commencement of his career, no longer exist, several useful elementary works and a Dictionary far more valuable than that of the Romish Missionaries, have by Dr. Morrison's labor and the munificence of the Hon'ble Court, been placed within the reach of the public, but whilst these works reflect much credit on their Compiler, they have been almost wholly unproductive of pecuniary advantage to him; Dr. Morrison must however be always considered, as the Person who has chiefly opened to his Countrymen the road to the knowledge of the language of China.

Consequent on these reflections the Committee expressed the

hope that the Court would make Dr. Morrison's appointment permanent.

The Company's tea was packed in chests containing not less than 60 catties, except Hysons, which contained about 50 catties. Now to encourage their commanders the Court allowed them to ship tea in small packages containing not more than 30 catties. In a circular letter they were informed that

the Court of Directors have resolved that, as an encouragement to you to receive goods to the full extent of your ships registered tonnage, you are allowed to ship in addition to the Charterparty privilege small Boxes of Tea in no case exceeding thirty catties each according to the following scale to be stowed only in such parts of the ship as will not admit of Packages in which Companys Cargo is contained and with this express provision that unless the ship be loaded to the full extent of her registered tonnage the Company will reserve to themselves the power of charging you freight upon such extra indulgence at double the rate ℔ Ton at which your ship is engaged and that any exceedings will be equally liable to a mulct of £60 ℔ Ton as if they had formed a part of the regular Charterparty allowance, viz.

	Tons.
To the commander of a ship of 500–700 tons	10
,, ,, ,, 700–900 ,, ...	12
,, ,, ,, 900 tons and upwards . . .	15

The privilege for an Indiaman of full size was now, for the homeward voyage, 99 tons to be divided in certain proportions between the commander and his officers; but this additional privilege was for the commander alone. For the value of this privilege to a commander we have a statement of the trade of the captain of the ship *Sir David Scott* from Calcutta to Canton. The goods were sold to Poonequa and were delivered to him; that merchant died before payment was made, but his son acknowledged the correctness of the amounts and values in the following statement and admitted his liability:

	Piculs.	Dollars.
Betelnut	1,835	5,230
Pepper	992	8,182
Rattans.	1,137	4,548
Ebony	560	3,638
Sandalwood	109	2,616
Tin	228	5,026
Cotton	891	12,370
		41,610

The surgeon of the ship, Mr. David Scott (*sic*), had also sold his venture to Poonequa as follows:

	Piculs.	Dollars.
Tin	45	990
Cotton	27	375
		1,365

The following is a complete census of the adult male non-Portuguese foreign residents at Canton and Macao on March 18, 1826, not including Parsees or other Indians:

BRITISH RESIDENTS

Firm of Magniac & Co.:
- Mr. H. Magniac.
- Mr. William Jardine.
- Mr. Daniel Beale.
- Mr. Chay Beale.

Firm of Thomas Dent & Co.:
- Mr. Thomas Dent.
- Mr. Lancelot Dent.
- Mr. Charles Blight (an American citizen).
- Mr. Robert Inglis.

Firm of Yrisarri & Co.:
- Mr. Yrisarri.
- Mr. James Matheson.
- Mr. G. Matheson.

Resident Agents:
- Mr. R. Turner.
- Mr. Robertson.
- Mr. Cullen.
- Mr. William White.
- Mr. D. Manson.
- Mr. Eastman.
- Mr. Thomas Beale (residing at Macao).
- Mr. Markwick (shopkeeper in Canton).
- Mr. Just (a mechanic).
- Mr. Grant.
- Mr. Templeton.
- Mr. Trench.
- Mr. Thomas Davidson (there in October).
- Mr. Ilberry (arrived on November 20th, with a 'diploma constituting him Hanoverian Consul in China').

25 + 20 in factory = 45 British.

American Residents

Mr. Fisher, Consul for the United States.
Mr. Cushing.
Mr. Benjamin Wilcocks.
Mr. Latimer.
Mr. Dunn.
Mr. Gordon.
Mr. Philip Ammidon.
Mr. Samuel Russell.
Mr. Jasp: Sturgis.
Mr. James Welch.
Mr. Hart.
Mr. Bloodgood.
Mr. James Blight.
Mr. Covert.
Mr. Smith.
Dr. Bradford.
Mr. Forbes.
Mr. French, Mr. Pitman } Shopkeepers.

19 American.

Dutch Residents

Mr. Bletterman, Consul.
Mr. Genaert.
Mr Van Canegham, Vice-Consul.
Mr. Vandermeulen.

4 Dutch.

Swedish Residents

Sir Andrew Ljungstedt.
Mr. Ullman.

2 Swedish.

French Residents

Mr. Edward Bovet, Mr. Charles Bovet } Watchmakers (actually Swiss).

2 French.

Spanish Residents

Don Gabriel Yruretagoyena, Spanish Chief, and three other Spanish gentlemen. 4 Spanish.

making a total of 76. Among these names are some connected with Mr. Thomas Beale's estate. Mr. Beale himself is there; and Mr. Sturgis, to whom Mr. Welch demanded that the assets of the estate should be transferred, but these assets, amounting to 135,820 dollars, were on November 13, 1826, accepted by the Select Committee as a deposit subject to the order of Mr. Beale's assignees. In January, 1827, a decree of the Portuguese court was received declaring the estate liable to Mr. Welch, the exact amount to be settled by arbitration.

The Hong Merchants Poonequa and Kinqua applied in May for advances to enable them to pay arrears of duty; but, beyond paying the measurage of ships secured by them, the Committee

refused. In July the liability of each merchant was thus recorded—

	Tls.		Tls.
Import Duties :			
Puiqua	87,327	Poonequa	65,373
Mowqua	32,713	Goqua	12,921
Puankhequa . . .	21,771	Kinqua	97,216
Chunqua . . .	52,564	Fatqua	11,723
Manhop. . . .	72,283	Exchin	43,771
			497,662

Ginseng Contributions, 9 Merchants, each Tls. 9,994·434 = 89,950
Kungkia, portioned on each Merchant's Trade, total 55,000. Besides an uncertain amount for clocks and watches which is not ascertained. Note: the amount and proportion of each Merchant's contribution for the Yellow River is not yet ascertained.

In 1825 a serious rebellion had broken out in far distant Kashgar, forty degrees west of Peking; and, though ultimately, towards the end of 1826, it was suppressed and its leader executed, a campaign at such a distance from the capital caused a heavy drain on the treasury. To meet this expense the Imperial Government levied assessments on the provinces in the shape of benevolences, the amount assigned to Canton being Tls. 1,300,000 as follows :

	Tls.
The Mandarines of the province . . .	300,000
The Salt Merchants	400,000
The Hong Merchants	600,000

These sums were to be paid in ten annual instalments.

It was stated to us some days ago that the Viceroy had required from Howqua individually the sum of 300,000 Tales, we are now informed that by considerable exertions he has been enabled to reduce this demand to the amount of Tales 100,000 which is offered as a gratuitous gift to the Emperor from this Merchants eldest son who is at present a candidate for official preferment.

This was a personal contribution, in consideration of which the rank of Yen-yün-sze (Salt Commissioner) was by imperial decree conferred on Howqua's son, who had already purchased the rank of Taotai—the honorary rank, be it understood, and not the substantive post. The voluntary offer of the Hong Merchants to contribute Tls. 600,000, and the Salt Merchants Tls. 400,000, was graciously accepted by the Emperor.

In the poverty of the treasury, it is the more creditable that the Imperial Government should have remitted the duties of the *Royal George*, burned in port. The sum of Tls. 9,791 already paid (for goods already delivered) was not returned; but the measurage, Tls. 3,738, and the duties due on the cargo which had been destroyed, were remitted. This was, however, the last act of grace; from this time the Committee were constantly subjected to petty annoyances.

The *Topaze* affair was revived in October, five years after the event. The first attack was in a petition of Hwang Shing-tsai, who complained of the lawless conduct of the men from the English ship of war, which had resulted in the death of his father and of his sister's husband, for which he had repeatedly sought reparation, but without avail.

> I humbly submit that the law distinctly declares that he who kills a man shall forfeit his own life, and that a foreign country's dissimilar tribe of beings should murderously destroy the lives of our people and plunder to a great extent their property, is what our Nations law regards as still more insufferable. But traitorous Merchants became Protectors and never were the Murderers delivered over to justice and to punishment. Alas! my father died like a reptile and the members of his body were exposed openly to the Suns fierce rays and the boisterous winds: when my eye saw it, my heart was wounded: I wept tears of blood and invoked heaven, vowing that heaven's canopy should not overshadow at the same time my enemy and me but that death should terminate my efforts to procure satisfaction.

He now seized the opportunity of the coming of a new Viceroy to send in his petition. The Viceroy found on record the false rendering of the merchants, on the strength of which

> an Imperial Edict was issued commanding the Hong Merchants to issue an order to the English Chief to send a letter to the English Company directing them to await the return home of the Cruizer and then to ascertain accurately who the foreign Murderers actually were and themselves punish the criminals capitally [i. e. inflict on them the death penalty].

The Committee realized that this was probably an attempt to involve the Hong Merchants in a complication from which they could extricate themselves only by paying large sums of money, and they informed the merchants that the affair was now in the hands of the home government and out of their control.

Now appeared a series of lampoons against Howqua, accusing

him of accepting bribes to allow the foreign murderers to escape; one lampoon, in the name of Hwang Shing-tsai, closes with the words:

As he does not know the slave Howqua personally he asks that some one will point him out and he will instantly rip open his Bowels.

The Viceroy persisting in his pressure on the Hong Merchants, they came in great distress to implore the Committee to give them some answer—an explanation or an excuse—to carry with them; but when the Committee stated that they had a letter to the Viceroy, from Mr. Wynne, President of the Board of Control, complaining of the failure of the Chinese authorities to maintain order and protect the crew of the *Topaze*, and that it was to be delivered if the authorities again raised the question, the merchants begged that it might not be delivered, and undertook to secure the withdrawal of any further demands. The attacks on Howqua continued, however.

The great extent of his wealth, while it gives him commercial influence, tends often only to expose him to the depredations of the officers of this corrupt Government who seem at all times searching for an opportunity to benefit themselves by such exactions.

Howqua was in a difficult position. He wished to be again relieved of the obligation to secure the Company's ships, to which the Committee felt that they must accede; and he expressed his intention of withdrawing from active participation in the affairs of his firm, as soon as he could make the necessary arrangements. Actually on November 16th,

Howqua [Wu Tun-yuen] acquainted us that after repeated solicitations he had obtained the consent of the Hoppo to his retirement from the Hong . . . and that the Hong would henceforth be conducted by his fourth son [Wu Show-chang] whom he recommended to the protection of the Committee. . . . In all commercial affairs we have ever found him a most useful Merchant and though at one period his extended connection with the American Trade may have given him a Bias at variance with British Interests yet his great command of capital and superior intelligence has long placed him preeminent among the body of the Hong Merchants. The influence which his wealth and situation might otherwise have afforded him was in some measure counteracted by his natural timidity of character which rendered him less competent to contend with the officers of a despotic and corrupt Government and has rendered him on many occasions the victim of their exorbitant exactions. We believe his principal anxiety in now retiring is to endeavour to

protect his property and he has purchased the sanction of the Hoppo of Canton to his retirement (which may at any time be revoked by higher authority) it is said by half a million of dollars.

Even before the appointment of the new Viceroy the usual show of activity against the opium ships at Lintin was manifested. Under date of May 22, 1826, the Committee record—

The Chinese War vessels have for some days past collected at Macao and among the Islands and have shown a disposition to interfere with and embarrass the Opium Trade at Lintin by preventing the smuggling boats from going alongside the ships, which have been in consequence obliged to disperse. As there is a new Chinese officer appointed to this duty it is probable that this has been done with the view of displaying his zeal or acquiring additional emoluments in the shape of fees for himself. As the War vessels are at all times prevented from attacking the smuggling boats from the latter being manned by desperate people, who if apprehended in offering resistance would probably be put to death, while the crews of the former are persons hired at low wages and often very ignorant of all seafaring matters, it is not probable that any violent measures will be adopted or that the interruption will be of long continuance.

This activity subsided as others had before, but it was revived by the new Viceroy, who on his arrival issued at the end of October proclamations of exhortation to virtue—

The other proclamation is directed against the Lingtin smugglers, who have of late proceeded to the most daring and desperate lengths even to fire upon the Govt. Boats sent on the preventive service. He describes a class of Boats containing thirty or forty oars and carrying fire arms which are called in Chinese Fai-hai-ting ' Swift Crab Boats ', when smuggling fails them, they become pirates. His Excellency advises them to break up their boats and return to lawful callings, otherwise he will employ force against them and punish them capitally.

The activity increased, but in reporting it, at the end of December, the Committee made a significant reference to official connivance at the actual smuggling:

We understand that in consequence of the extent to which the smuggling traffic in the mouth of the Canton river is now carried on the vigilance of the Govt. has been excited and numerous armed boats have been sent to Lintin and among the Islands to disperse all foreign ships engaged in illegal trade. The only immediate result from these measures is the dispersion of the ships from their usual places of anchorage and considerable impediments to the conduct of the Opium trade. Should the Chinese Govt. not adopt more efficient measures to check the

increasing extent of smuggling than it appears at present to possess the Private Trade to this port seems likely to become an illegal commerce altogether as many of the Hoppo Officers whose duty it is to put it down are frequently the agents by whose instrumentality it is carried on.

Although the Canton Committee had strict orders not to intervene in any way in the opium trade, still the Indian administration had a natural interest in the sale of the product from which it derived so large a revenue; and detailed reports of the state of the opium market at Canton were sent each season to the Supreme Government at Calcutta. In this season (February 24, 1827) the Committee reported the price of

Old Patna opium, 950 Dollars ℔ 103 Catties
New Patna, 680 Dollars ℔ 107 Catties
Old Benares opium, 1,050 Dollars ℔ Chest (120 catties)
New Benares, 1,300 Dollars ℔ Chest
Malwa Opium, 880 Dollars ℔ Chest (100–104 Catties)

Of the above the New Benares Opium is in the greatest demand. The present price of Turkey Opium is quoted at 510 Dollars. The stock on hand is said to be small but upwards of 1,000 peculs are expected and as this opium is stated to have been purchased at Smyrna at 7*s.* ℔ lb. and in England at 9*s.* it cannot fail to yield a large profit to the importer and to give encouragement to future speculations.

A statement of the consumption (deliveries) in the past six seasons was sent, showing that in six years, although the quantity had increased, there was no increase in the value (price realized).

	Patna and Benares.		*Malwa and Demaun.*		*Total.*	
Year from April 1st	Chests.	*Value.* Dollars.	Chests.	*Value.* Dollars.	Chests.	*Value.* Dollars.
1821 .	2,910	6,038,250	1,718	2,276,350	4,628	8,314,600
1822 .	1,822	2,828,930	4,000	5,160,000	5,822	7,988,930
1823 .	2,910	4,656,000	4,172	3,859,100	7,082	8,515,100
1824 .	2,655	3,119,625	6,000	4,500,000	8,655	7,619,625
1825 .	3,442	3,141,755	6,179	4,466,450	9,621	7,608,205
1826[1] .	2,516	2,687,340	4,914	4,664,810	7,430	7,352,150

And then follows an expression of the Committee's opinion on the situation at the end of February—

The Opium Trade continues to be conducted on board of the Ships at Lintin with no material interference or interruption from the Chinese Government. Endeavours have lately been made to deliver Opium to Chinese Vessels among the Islands further to the eastward but these attempts have hitherto been attended with little success. As the traffic

[1] To February 1, 1827.

at Lintin however is not now confined to Opium alone but is extended to transhipment of goods of every description by which means all Port charges are evaded it is probable that this illegal trade which is annually increasing must soon attract the more serious attention of the Canton Govt.

The agents through whom the authorities had to act would appear to have been most untrustworthy and to be constantly committing blunders. Only a week after the above was written, on March 5th the Committee record that they had just heard that

a Chinese Compradore's Boat was proceeding to the American Ship *Citizen* at Lintin with a letter from Canton when the Boat was seized and carried alongside one of the War Vessels. The Commanders of the English and American Opium ships suspecting that a foreigner had been captured manned their Boats and proceeded to his rescue. They were assaulted with stones from the Chinese vessel when an order was given to fire and the War Vessel was immediately abandoned by her Crew. The Compradore's Boat which it then appeared was only bringing a letter was taken to the American Ship *Citizen*.

The increase in the number of English and American residents caused some exasperation in the minds of the authorities, because they used more and more the Fast Boats, which had been authorized for the passage between Canton and Macao by the Inner Passage, and, following one on the heels of the other, made it difficult to check smuggling—or so it was alleged. A mandate from the Hoppo to the Hong Merchants in the summer of 1826 drew attention to the necessity of obtaining a permit for a Fast Boat by the Inner Passage as much as for a Chop Boat by the Bogue; and the injunction was repeated in February following, on which the Committee comment as follows:

We trust that it is not the intention of the Officers of Govt. to curtail a privilege which has been conceded to Foreigners but this Document evidently evinces a disposition to impede the intercourse by the Inner Passage between Canton and Macao.

These mandates were probably moves in the eternal game of extortion; and a similar move was taken, whenever the opportunity occurred, in connexion with the prohibition of the coming of foreign women. In November Mr. H. Batson, of the Bengal Civil Service, had come under medical orders from Calcutta to China, intending to proceed in the ship to England. He was accompanied by his niece Mrs. Wells, and the pilot

refused to take the ship, the *George the Fourth*, into the river until Mrs. Wells and her female attendants should be landed at Macao. This was done in ' an accommodation boat of a Portuguese resident, by which means the exactions of the Chinese would be avoided '. This was a hope that was not realized, for, three days later, Mr. Batson

was not a little surprised to find an exorbitant demand made on me by the Mandarine of the Customs at Macao, for the privilege of landing my niece, her female attendants and baggage, for the latter an arbitrary duty of from 8 to 10 Dollars for each trunk is insisted upon and for my niece 10 Dollars and for her two female attendants 12 Dollars.

Mr. Batson inquired of the Portuguese whether such a charge was justifiable or not ; they were thereby placed in a dilemma, since they could impose no check on the Chinese Customs, but they made representations to the mandarin, who stayed his hand for twenty days. His demand, somewhat reduced in amount, was then renewed ;

and as it is manifest from the circumstance of the Mandarine coming down in his demand that even if any demand on his part be proper, it is not regulated on any fixed principle, but is liable to fluctuate according to the rapacity of one Mandarine or the forbearance of another,

in order to protect others in his position Mr. Batson, on public grounds, carried his complaint to the Select Committee ; but what action they took, or what redress he obtained, is not recorded.

Under ordinary circumstances, and where no Chinese interest was involved, the Portuguese authorities were left free to imagine that they were lords of the soil, exercising sovereign rights in Macao ; but when such a claim interfered with the power of taxing the foreigner and his trade, or when Chinese life and limb were involved, the Portuguese were promptly reminded of the limitation on their power. Such a reminder was given in connexion with

the execution of a Timor Slave who was sentenced to death for the murder of a Chinese under circumstances of great aggravation. The Officers of the Chinese Government ever jealous of acknowledging the existence of any independent authority in the Portuguese for some time pertinaceously maintained that the murderer should be tried and convicted by the Laws of China, but that position was ultimately conceded by them upon compliance being at several conferences held between the authorities of the two Countries repeatedly and decidedly

refused. The Quang-chow-foo who with other Mandarines of Rank was delegated by the Viceroy acquiesced in the justice of the sentence which was passed on the criminal by the Judge of Macao and declared himself satisfied with the arrangements which were made for carrying into effect the last sentence of the Law.

The Chinese populace of Macao did not agree with this acquiescence by the Chinese officials, and there was much agitation, by incitements to violence, by placards, by appeals to the Viceroy, and by repeated complaints that not the slave, but his master was the murderer. At the execution (at 8 a.m. on March 18, 1826) the Chinese officials were present, but not the Portuguese Governor nor any of his officials, and the few Portuguese troops present were not armed in such a way as to suppress a riot. The slave was executed by being first hanged, then decapitated, and his hands then cut off. The Chinese mob thereupon started a riot, expelled the troops from the execution ground, and proceeded to plunder the town,

and it is more than probable that Macao would have become one general and uncontrolled scene of disorder had not the Negro Slaves, who had on this occasion been placed in the principal fortress from an apprehension of their undue interference, escaped from their confinement and pervading the streets with sticks and such weapons as chance afforded them completely succeeded in dispersing the Mob and three Chinese were killed during the tumult. It was one of the unusual circumstances which attended these disturbances that the Officers of the Chinese Government were themselves assaulted and treated with the greatest insult and indignity.

The Viceroy decided to take no action against the Portuguese, but to treat the Chinese of Macao as the aggressors and the sole agents in the riot. The Hoppo sent to the Hong Merchants a mandate to caution the English not to interfere.

The Portuguese foreigners at Macao having killed a Chinese subject, the Kwang-chow-foo was deputed by His Excellency the Viceroy to take the matter in hand. The said foreigners were obstinate and disobedient and intelligence has arrived of disturbances. Since the English Nation has no concern with the Portuguese, there would be no use in their having clandestine intercourse with them, and as the general demeanour of the English Chief is respectful and obedient, he should the rather pay an implicit deference to the laws of the Celestial Dynasty ;

still some of the English might err through ignorance, and the Chief was to issue orders to them that they were to live quietly at

Macao and not take part in any disturbances. In his report to the Throne the Viceroy stated that it had been clearly proved that the culprit was the slave, and not his master Major José Castano Favacho.

In November Captain Walker of the ship *Macqueen* was walking in the street near the factories at Canton when, for no apparent cause, he was attacked by a Chinese who flung a stone at him. Though ' much stunned by the blow ', he pursued the man for upwards of a mile and finally secured him. The Committee resolved to send a letter to the Viceroy on the subject, complaining at the same time of the existence of shops near the factories at which vile spirits were sold, one of the shops being the property of the eldest son of the late Puankhequa. The Hong Merchants promised to obtain redress and satisfaction, and asked that the letter should not be sent ; but the Committee persisted, and on November 30th

We are informed by the Merchants that the Viceroy had received our address and would issue the necessary instructions. In the course of the day several officers deputed from the City proceeded to the shops pointed out as obnoxious and they have since been abandoned by their former tenants.

IMPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1826. VALUES IN DOLLARS

IMPORTS IN PRIVATE TRADE BY COMPANY'S SHIPS NOT INCLUDED

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Woollens	3,385,421	25,625	3,411,046	634,024	..	..
Metals	361,290	39,357	400,647	516,332	..	..
Furs	..	30,000	30,000	256,809	..	..
Other Western Products	50,200 [1]	43,000	93,200	335,572 [3]	..	..
Western Products	3,796,911	137,982	3,934,893	1,742,737	..	5,677,630
Cotton	2,061,771	5,153,561	7,215,332	14,280	..	..
Opium	..	9,269,826 [2]	9,269,826	29,500 [4]	..	..
Sandalwood	3,762	200,448	204,210	83,500	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	87,354	87,354	..	..	..
Pepper	8,728	51,707	60,435	28,800	..	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	808,931	808,931	103,732	..	..
Eastern Produce	2,074,261	15,571,827	17,646,088	259,812	..	17,905,900
Total Goods	5,871,172	15,709,809	21,580,981	2,002,549	..	23,583,530
Silver	..	..	..	1,841,168 [5]	..	1,841,169
Total Imports	5,871,172	15,709,809	21,580,981	3,843,717	..	25,424,699

[1] British calicoes, 6,400 pieces, 50,200 dollars.
[2] Indian opium under all flags to both Lintin and Macao.
[3] Including cotton piece goods, 61,981 pieces, 261,700 dollars; ginseng, 2,539 piculs, 66,388 dollars.
[4] Turkey opium, 56 piculs.
[5] In addition to silver, American ships brought bills to the amount of about 400,000 dollars.

EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1826. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	British. Company.	British. Private.	British. Total.	American.	Other Flags.	Total.
Ships: Number	34	51	85	19	8	112
Tons	38,000	36,000	74,000	7,034	4,730	85,764
Exports:						
Tea	9,369,870	1,073,905	10,443,775	2,117,749	..	..
Raw Silk	..	1,064,920	1,064,920	98,800	..	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	256,140	256,140	1,638,677	..	..
Nankeens	..	201,628	201,628	216,107	..	..
Tutenague	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Commodities	..	1,696,770 [2]	1,696,770	292,555 [3]	..	..
Total Goods	9,369,870	4,293,363	13,663,233	4,363,888	..	18,027,121
Silver	..	4,019,000	4,019,000	..	..	4,019,000
	9,369,870	8,312,363	17,682,233	4,363,888	..	22,046,121
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	175,310					
Factory Expenses	128,551	385,000	947,861	101,000	..	..
Ship Expenses	259,000					
	562,861	385,000	947,861	101,000	..	1,048,861
Cost of Investment	9,932,731 [1]	8,697,363	18,630,094	4,464,888	..	23,094,982

[1] This differs from the figures on p. 123 by the amount of the investment for Quebec and Halifax.
[2] Including sugar, 153,255 piculs, 1,099,456 dollars.
[3] Including sugar, 4,514 piculs, 38,564 dollars.

OPIUM STATEMENT

	Bengal. Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	*Total.* Chests.
Stock, April 1826	1,636	987	?	2,623
Imported to end February	2,590	5,620	56	8,266
	4,226	6,607	56	10,889
Consumed to end March	3,661	6,308	56	10,025
Stock	565	299	?	864
Prices in dollars per chest :				
Highest	1,250	1,060	620	
Lowest	800	860	450	

The importation of Bengal and Malwa opium was effected in thirty English country ships and seven Portuguese ships.

The Malwa opium imported came, 1,520 chests from the Calcutta sales, 2,464 chests from the Bombay sales, and 1,636 chests from Damán.

DESTINATION OF EXPORTS BY AMERICAN SHIPS SEASON 1826

			Value. Dollars.	Dollars
To United States :				
Tea	Piculs	60,773	1,962,068	
Raw Silk	,,	210	79,800	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	269,928	1,387,319	
Nankeens	,,	267,400	187,183	
Matting	Rolls	2,116	10,580	
Cassia Bark	Piculs	4,035	68,505	
Sugar	,,	2,664	22,664	
Fireworks	Boxes	6,126	15,315	
Sundries	Value	..	73,274	
				3,806,708
To Europe :				
Tea	Piculs	2,684	121,739	
Raw Silk	,,	50	19,000	
Cassia Bark	,,	217	3,726	
				144,465
To South America and Sandwich Islands :				
Tea	Piculs	874	33,942	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	33,957	251,358	
Nankeens	,,	41,300	28,924	
Matting	Rolls	1,780	8,900	
Cassia Bark	Piculs	87	1,479	
Sugar	,,	1,850	15,900	
Sundries	Value	..	72,212	
				412,715
Total				4,363,888

THE COURT'S ESTIMATE OF THE INVESTMENT SEASON 1826

		£	£
BENGAL INVESTMENT:			
to England:	Piece Goods	116,338	
	Raw Silk	937,860	
	Saltpetre	22,620	
	Sugar	111,360	
	Indigo	300,000	
		1,488,178	
to China:	Raw Cotton	302,017	
			1,790,195
MADRAS INVESTMENT:			
to England:	Coast Piece Goods	225,226	
to China:	Raw Cotton	102,857	
			328,083
BOMBAY INVESTMENT:			
to China:	Raw Cotton		235,052
INDIA AND CHINA:	to Cape of Good Hope		10,000
CHINA INVESTMENT:			
to England:	Tea	1,924,480	
to Canada and Halifax:	Tea	105,000	
			2,029,480
			(*sic*) 4,397,810
Excess of Commercial Funds			446,103
Total			4,843,913

THE COURT'S ESTIMATE OF COMMERCIAL FUNDS TO PROVIDE THE INVESTMENTS, SEASON 1826

Political Charges in England from May, 1825, to April, 1826, including Pay Office Demands			1,740,000
Cost and Charges of Military and Public Stores		800,000	
Marine Stores		12,000	
Stationery		22,000	
			834,000
			2,574,000
Sales of Europe Goods:	in 3 Presidencies	232,000	
	in China	763,903	
			995,903
Produce in China of Company's Cotton in Season 1826:	Bombay Cotton, Bengal Cotton, Madras Cotton		454,140
Amount to be paid into Canton Treasury by Commanders:	for Bombay Cotton	92,867	
	for Bengal Cotton	91,994	
	for Madras Cotton	35,009	
			219,870
From Commanders for Certificates			100,000
Amount which may be received into Canton Treasury for Bills on Court of Directors			500,000
			4,843,913

PRIVATE TRADE OF COMMANDERS AND OFFICERS OF THE COMPANY'S SHIPS, SEASON 1826

		Quantity.	*Approximate value.* Dollars.
IMPORTS:			
Cotton	Piculs	66,326	796,000
Pepper	,,	5,784	40,500
Rattans	,,	6,396	27,000
Sandalwood	,,	1,793	36,000
Betelnut	,,	32,251	96,500
Tin, Banka	,,	1,371	30,000
Sundries	Value	..	152,000
			1,178,000
EXPORTS:			
Tea	Piculs	15,902	561,000
Raw Silk	,,	814	260,500
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	6,500	52,000
Nankeens	,,	14,200	11,500
Sundries	Value	..	28,000
			913,000

LXXXIV

IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH OFFICIALS, 1827

THE season 1827 opened with the Select Committee consisting of Sir William Fraser (President), and Messrs. Plowden and Millett. Mr. Marjoribanks joined it in August; Sir W. Fraser died on December 23rd; and from the 26th the Committee was composed of Mr. William Henry Chichely Plowden (President), and Messrs. Charles Millett, Charles Marjoribanks, and John Francis Davis. The books were opened on March 3rd with the following balances:

	Tls.
Cr. by Silver in treasury	152,400
Tea in Stock, 47,867 piculs	984,836
Imports unsold	366,193
Factory account	14,117
Estate of Thomas Beale	110,891
Dead stock and Schooner	32,959
Due from Puiqua	33,274
Credit balance	1,694,670

During the season the Company loaded for London twenty-six ships of 27,578 tons builder's measurement, and for British North America two ships of about 1,400 tons, making in all twenty-eight ships of about 31,000 tons. In addition the Committee received cargoes of cotton from Bombay on three country ships, not included in the above.

The stock at the disposal of the Committee was derived from the following sources:

	Dollars.
Cash assets as above, Tls. 1,694,670	2,381,486
Import cargoes on Comp's Act.: English, Tls. 1,576,251 / Indian, Tls. 1,677,398	4,518,957
Bills on Bengal: exch. 200 Sa. Rup. and 30 days	716,242
,, 204 ,, ,, ,,	1,052,274
Bills on London: exch. 4*s.* 1½*d.* and 6 months	78,201
to staff for salaries, £6,700	27,917
Certificates to commanders and officers	447,143
Commanders for cotton bonds	625,546
Tls. 7,090,392 =	9,847,766

The Company's investments (entirely tea, except 3,000 pieces of nankeens to St. Helena and 500 pieces to Cape Colony) were invoiced as follows :

	Tls.
To London	5,944,259
Halifax	239,649
Quebec	162,253
Indian ports	4,161
Cape of Good Hope	30,044
St. Helena	5,201
Dollars 8,868,843 =	6,385,567

The supercargoes received as commission on the investment—

	Dollars.[1]
for Halifax the sum of	5,047
for Quebec	3,390

The trade particulars during the season were as follows :

	Ships. No.	*Ships.* Tons.	*Cotton.* Piculs.	*Tea.* Piculs.	*Raw Silk.* Piculs.	*Silk Piece Goods.* Pieces.	*Nankeens.* Pieces.
English :							
Company	28	31,000	176,206	249,905[2]	..	..	3,500
Private	42	31,500	270,538	16,070[3]	3,570	40,000	758,000
American	29	12,470	1,307	78,807[4]	267	420,494	619,000
	99	74,970	448,051	344,782	3,837	460,494	1,380,500

Two Dutch ships arrived and cleared during the season, tonnage unknown ; no particulars are recorded of their trade.

On January 1st one year's salary was issued to the salaried members of the factory, not in dollars, but in 30-day bills on London, viz. :

	£		£
George Best Robinson	900	Henry Thomas Ravenshaw	300
Robert Burland Hudleston	900	Alexander Pearson	1,300
Hugh Hamilton Lindsay	700	Thomas R. Colledge	1,000
John Harvey Astell	300	The Rev. Dr. Morrison	1,000
Henry Matthew Clarke	300		6,700

Superior to the six writers included in the above list, there were now only two supercargoes, sharing in the commission, below the

[1] Entered as dollars in both the Diary and the Consultations.

[2] Including 236,948 piculs to London ; 12,542 piculs to British North America.

[3] To London, 13,475 piculs ; to India, 2,595 piculs.

[4] Including 12,500 piculs estimated export to Europe.

Committee—Mr. Thomas Charles Smith and Mr. John Jackson. The following payments were also made in dollars :

	Dollars.	Dollars.
Mr. Alexander Pearson, Surgeon, Table Allowance at Macao		1,000
Mr. T. R. Colledge, Asst. ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,		1,000
Edward Lane, wages as Steward	417	
allowance as Clerk to Chapel	100	
		517
James Canning, wages as Butler		417
Mr. J. F. Davis, Allowance as Chinese student		417
Mr. T. C. Smith ,, ,, ,,		417
Mr. H. M. Clarke, ,, ,, ,,		417
Mr. J. Jackson, Allowance as Tea Taster		417

In this season there came from the Supreme Government at Fort William an instruction of the Court of Directors, dated January 27, 1827, limiting the period of absence of their Civil Servants :

In our despatch dated the 21st May, 1823, we desired that in all cases of all Civil Servants absent within the limits of the Company's Charter, the absentee at the expiration of eighteen months should receive only the allowances of a servant out of employ. You will distinctly understand that it is our intention that in every such case the privilege of the absentee to return to his office, as well as his right to any portion of the Allowances of it, shall cease and determine at the expiration of the term of eighteen months.

Manchester has at last made good its footing, British calicoes having for the first time been sold at a profit. The importation on Company's account during the season was 15,300 pieces, invoiced free on board at £21,261, and cost, insurance, and freight at £23,241 ; and they were sold (not including duty) at an average price of 7 dollars a piece, a total of 107,100 dollars = Tls. 77,112 = £25,704 at the fixed conventional rate of exchange, and £22,090 at the rate of the season for bills. These calicoes were 40 yards long ; and, of 7,600 pieces in one invoice, the width of 600 pieces was 30½ inches, of 3,100 pieces 35 inches, and of 3,900 pieces 36 inches ; and the Committee recommended that in future all should be of the full width of 36 inches. The sale was effected at these prices although there was an importation by American ships fully equal to that for the Company.

An experiment was made with fifteen pieces of Mohair Camlets, invoiced c.i.f. at 47 dollars and something more ; Howqua

offered 45 for them and recommended an importation of 500 pieces in the season 1829. Otherwise the woollens were sold at the prices of the previous season, and barely covered their first cost, or even caused a loss.

In addition to the tea, 47,867 piculs, in stock as winter teas, contracts were made—the black teas mainly in March; of the green teas, the Twankays in March, the others in December—for the following quantities:

	Bohea. Piculs.	*Congo.* Chests.	*Souchong.* Chests.	*Twankay.* Chests.	*Hyson.* Chests.	*Hyson Skin.* Chests.
Howqua	..	36,499	2,566	11,000	2,035	1,290
Mowqua	..	23,000	1,516	8,000	2,389	725
Chunqua	15,000	27,248	1,938	8,000	1,154	367
Puankhequa	..	22,984	510	7,000	1,525	577
Manhop	..	19,606	520	8,000	462	190
Poonequa	..	(14,000)	..	4,000	..	..
Goqua	12,000	20,580	1,375	7,000	1,992	913
Kinqua	..	17,444	..	4,000	1,115	275
Fatqua	..	12,394	..	3,000	..	..
Coqua	..	3,222	..	..	..	..
	27,000	182,977	8,425	60,000	10,672	4,337

The raw silk allowed to be exported by each ship was now 100 piculs, and, as the Company did not include silk in its investment, this was divided between the commander and officers in proportion to the 'privilege tonnage' of each; but it was expressly forbidden to transfer to foreigners this privilege, or the liberty to obtain certificates. In January it was noticed that a considerable quantity of goods of great value had been shipped by Mr. C. Bovet (Swiss, protected French) on the *Scaleby Castle* under the privilege of the fourth officer, surgeon, boatswain, and carpenter. The certificate privilege of the four officers was cancelled, and Mr. Bovet was required to reland his goods and warned that any future shipments would be confiscated. During this season the commander's certificate privilege was 16,227 dollars, and a carpenter's 271.

The foreign residents on March 6, 1827, outside the English factory, were as follows:

BRITISH: Messrs. Thomas Dent & Co.
Mr. Thomas Dent, Sardinian Consul.
Mr. Lancelot Dent.

Mr. Robert Inglis.
Mr. Wilkinson.
Messrs. Magniac & Co.
Mr. William Jardine.
Mr. Chay Beale.
Mr. Ilberry, Hanoverian Consul.
Mr. Fearon ,, Vice-Consul.
Mr. James Matheson, Danish Consul.
Mr. Alex. Matheson.
Mr. James Innes.
7 other merchants.
Mr. George Chinnery, portrait painter.
2 shopkeepers.

AMERICAN: Mr. Grosvenor, Consul.
13 merchants.
Dr. Bradford, Surgeon.
2 shopkeepers.

DUTCH: 5.
SWEDISH: 2.
SPANISH: 4.
FRENCH: 2.

In this list we have a score of British subjects from the United Kingdom in addition to probably as many more from the Indian presidencies, who resided in China and engaged in trade in defiance of the prohibition of the Court of Directors. This prohibition, repeated year after year, was again notified by an advertisement of the Committee dated October 22, 1827, but all such notifications were only an empty menace. To Mr. Robert Inglis, however, who had left the service of the Company and joined the firm of Thomas Dent & Co., a special warning was sent that

> your residence in China without the sanction of the Court of Directors renders you liable to all the Penalties which have been attached to persons so situated by Acts of the British Legislature.

It does not appear that Mr. Inglis replied to this letter, or that the Committee took any further action; but in the case of Mr. James Walker they were more energetic. Mr. Walker was third officer of the Company's ship *Farquharson*, and on January 11, 1828, he obtained his privilege certificates for

811 dollars; but when the ship left the next day, he remained behind, having deserted with the avowed intention of setting up as a commission agent. On the 18th, by direction of the Committee, their secretary Mr. Jackson and the senior commander Captain Dalrymple proceeded to his factory, arrested him, and sent him on board the *Windsor*, by which ship he was to be conveyed a passenger to England and there 'allowed to leave the ship immediately without further orders'.

At the close of the previous season Puiqua requested the permission of the Committee to change the name of his firm from his brother's name, Puiqua, to his own, Howqua.

He expressed some apprehension of the surviving brothers of his family in the event of his death making claim to shares in the Hong if the name of Puiqua was retained.

In July, as the time drew near for the first ships to arrive, he again raised the question of his exemption from the obligation of securing any of the ships, and asked the Committee to write to Mowqua, the second in the Cohong, to ask that merchant to secure the first ship. This was done; but Mowqua paid no attention to the request, and those junior to him remained in their proper order in rotation, so that the first ship was after all secured by Howqua. After that, however, he was exempted, the Committee recording their opinion that

it appears that the immense wealth of this merchant holds out such attractions to the rapacity of the Officers of Governt. that the most trivial and unintentional infringement of the Port regulations or Laws of the Country on the part of the Officers or Crew of a Ship for whose good conduct the act of security has rendered him responsible are seized as pretences for involving him in a serious prosecution of the government, to which his natural timidity and anxiety to avoid discussion give additional facilities. . . . On these occasions it is impossible to say to what extent the rapacity of the Officers of Government might not have carried their prosecution. It is also notorious that Howqua has made considerable sacrifices of property in purchasing the Commanders and Officers Investments, and used other precautions to prevent the possibility of smuggling.

Poonequa in his bankruptcy during the previous season came near to dragging Kinqua down, but this was averted by the action of the Committee in advancing in March, 1827, the sum

of 30,000 dollars under the guarantee of the Cohong. In the following October Howqua informed the President that

Kinqua had succeeded in obtaining permission from the Hoppo to substitute his third Son as the official Representative of the Hong, and that this favor had been obtained on very moderate terms, the sum paid not exceeding 30,000 Dollars.

Chunqua the elder had announced his intention during the previous season to retire from his firm, and at the close of this season, in February, 1828, intimated to the President that the matter was definitely arranged and that, within a month, he would leave Canton.

It was the custom of the Committee to take every step in their power to uphold the credit of the merchants, and in particular just before the Chinese New Year, when all Chinese accounts must be settled, they commonly made large payments. In this season they paid out 969,567 dollars in specie and in addition sanctioned transfers to the amount of 790,338 dollars for the issue of bills on Bengal to Messrs. Thomas Dent & Co. and Messrs. Magniac & Co. This New Year's settlement brought Manhop to bankruptcy, Messrs. Magniac & Co. having presented a petition against him for the clandestine removal from his warehouse of 1,800 bales of cotton, which had not been paid for.

The first reference in this season to the opium trade was on April 8th, when it was recorded, the factory being then at Macao, that

the *Dhaulle* Opium Schooner arrived from the Coast to the Eastward where she has been with the view of disposing of Opium. The result of her Voyage is not made known but it is generally believed not to have been prosperous.

Ships going to the eastward were soon to indulge in an orgy of smuggling, but even at Lintin one form of smuggling encouraged others. On September 3rd the Committee noted that

the very extensive Contraband Trade now carried on at the anchorage of Linting, not only in the Importation of Opium, but in the transit of goods of every description to and from Canton, by means of such vessels as are entering the river, for the purpose of lading and unlading those which remain at Linting, renders it necessary in our opinion to issue a strict prohibition against any communication whatever between our ships and the vessels above alluded to, which might eventually form a subject of discussion to the Officers of Government, and a pretence for levying exactions upon the Hong Merchants.

The Company avoided even the appearance of any connexion with the sale of the drug in China, and prohibited its carriage, even in the smallest quantity, in its ships; but, because of the Indian revenue, it was none the less keenly interested in its transport and sale by others. The Select Committee sent regularly to the Governor-General in Council at Fort William as full and accurate reports as they could obtain on a traffic that was shrouded in mystery. In two reports of February 24 and September 13, 1827, they commented on the 'indifferent character' of the Patna opium sold at the third and fourth sales of the previous year, which had 'excited the suspicion of the dealers' on the whole crop of the year, and had brought prices down from 1,350 dollars in May, 1826, to 810 in February, 1827, and, with the expectation of the new opium soon to arrive, reduced it in March as low as 645 dollars. They also sent such particulars as they could obtain of the Malwa opium, less accurate perhaps of the Damán shipments than of that sold at the Company's sales in Calcutta and Bombay, adding the caution that

> all information obtained by the Company's Representatives on this subject must necessarily be of an imperfect nature from the peculiar character of the Trade.

Another cause for the interest taken by the Company lay in the fact that the opium trade provided the greater part of the specie exchanged for the Company's bills, thus providing the additional funds by which the investment of tea for London was paid for.

News was slow in coming and was untrustworthy. It was slow because even now an Indiaman might take five months direct and six months by way of an Indian port. The dates of the Company's ship *General Kyd*, for example, were as follows:

Plymouth, sailed 1827, March 18.
Madras, arrived June 23, sailed August 11.
Penang, arrived August 25, sailed August 31.
Malacca, arrived September 5, sailed September 6.
Singapore, arrived September 10, sailed September 13.
Off Macao, arrived September 27.

On June 1st the Committee heard from Singapore that news had been received at Batavia, communicated at sea by an English vessel, that war had broken out between England and France, and between England and Spain. The Committee distrusted the

authenticity of the news and took no action; and in fact the prompt dispatch of British troops to Portugal attained its purpose and induced France and Spain to desist from their intention of attacking Portugal.

The Chinese authorities preferred much to have all the foreigners travel to and from Macao in one body, or at least with all of one nation together, and certainly all of one factory. On August 20th a permit was given to Mr. Millett to go alone to Canton to deal with the import cargoes of the early ships, but the Hoppo added the injunction:

> Hereafter, if foreigners really have important business to transact, let them form a fleet of several Boats and petition for a permit: it is not allowed to do so for single Boats. It is not only troublesome to the public offices, but also gives cause to apprehend that the practice will facilitate smuggling.

The suggestion that any of the Company's employees should engage in smuggling led the Committee to send an indignant protest to the Hoppo, whereupon the latter expressed his regret that he had been misunderstood, and (through the merchants) assured the Committee that the English Company's servants were above suspicion; but to his translation of this latter mandate Dr. Morrison has appended the following note:

> The writer is unusually tenacious of the word 夷 E, 'Foreign'. It is a dubious word, never used by ourselves.

The Portuguese residents in Macao had lost the opium trade, on which the port had mainly subsisted, and they now lived largely on their monopoly of land-owning, through which they were enabled to provide with houses the increased number of English and American traders who spent there the between-season.

> Investment of property in houses having of late been sought after in Macao, from the heavy losses of those who have attempted to trade in Opium, it is hoped some person possessed of adequate funds may be induced to make the purchase in question as it holds out a good prospect of secure Interest for money.

The purchase referred to was the Palacio, occupied by the English Company as their Macao factory, but for which a new Portuguese owner had to be found in succession to the Baron di Porto Alegré, who had died leaving his estate much involved. At a later date the Committee record that

the only means now left to the inhabitants of Macao, as investment for their capital with security, is in house property to be rented.

It was then noted that, whereas the Company allowed 100 dollars a year as rent allowance to those members of the factory who were obliged to find quarters outside, the rent paid for such accommodation was usually 1,200 dollars.

The Chinese officials were unusually polite in their attentions. At Macao, after previously intimating his intention, the Tsotang visited the factory on April 14th, and was courteously received; but at Macao, far removed from the supervision of his superiors, an official was free to do as he pleased. On October 16th a visit was paid to the factory at Canton by the Tsiangkün or Tartar-General and his adjutant.

They behaved with great mildness and urbanity, looked attentively at Lord Amherst's Picture and the large Mirror lately come out, and went into the Library.

The Tsiangkün was always a member of the Manchu nobility of the highest rank. The adjutant was a Kungyeh, or duke; his mother was married to the Emperor lately deceased. The two visitors were received by Mr. Marjoribanks, the junior member of the Committee, and Dr. Morrison; Sir W. Fraser was probably too ill, but there was no explanation of the absence of Mr. Plowden and Mr. Millett.

On December 26th, the day after the news of Sir W. Fraser's death was received, a visit was paid by the third son of the Viceroy 'accompanied by several Mandarines of distinction'.

In August the Namhoi Hien sent a mandate to the Hong Merchants on the subject of foreigners visiting Fati, the Flower Gardens, across the river from Canton.

It appears that foreigners coming to Canton to trade are only permitted to dwell in their Factories. On a former occasion, in consideration of foreigners coming a great distance over the Ocean and being long on board ship, which produced ill health, they had to thank the Great Officers of the Province for compassionating them, and permitting them on those days of the moon when 3 or 8 occur in the figure,[1] to go to Fati (the Flower Gardens) accompanied by a Linguist, for the purpose

[1] That is on the 3rd, 8th, 13th, 18th, 23rd and 28th days of the lunar month. These were the days for the receipt of petitions at the yamens of the Viceroy and the Governor. When, four or five years before, Puankhequa had restricted

of recreation, still, however, requiring notice to be given at the Western Fort. They were allowed to go in the morning and return in the evening.

The Hong Merchants were required to see that this privilege was not abused, and that the foreigners did not wander over the country-side.

The Merchants have daily commercial relations with the foreigners, and ought to teach them what is right, and repress their pride and licentiousness. If any illegality occur, positively the Merchants alone shall be responsible.

On November 15th a serious fire broke out not far from the foreign factories, destroying parts of the hongs of Howqua, Mowqua, Manhop, and Kinqua, and again exposing the foreign factories to great danger. The Committee wrote to the Hoppo, pointing out that in 1822 the stores of timber piled up on the roofs of houses in Hog Lane had been mainly instrumental in carrying the flames to the foreign factories, and that now, in 1827, they had again been endangered by the same cause; and asking that the combustible material in Hog Lane be removed. The Hoppo returned a sympathetic reply when, on January 10th, a great fire again brought the factories into even greater danger; and five days later another fire destroyed a number of houses to the westward of the factories.

On November 26th the Committee was informed by the commander of the country ship *Golconda* as follows:

While in the act of dropping the ship *Golconda* down Whampoa Reach we fell on board the American ship *Caledonia*. We commenced heaving on an Hawser laid out to the *Charles Forbes* for the purpose of clearing the two Vessels which unfortunately parted and struck a Chinese Carpenter who was at the time sitting in the head: intimation of the same being given I repaired to the place and found that life was extinct.

The Committee summoned Kinqua, the Security Merchant, and requested him to dispatch an agent to Whampoa to settle the matter and prevent it from stirring up trouble. He sent his cousin, who ascertained that the accident had been reported to

the visits to Fati he selected the petition days for them, thinking that the officials would all be engaged and unable to go to the Flower Gardens.

the Viceroy; but, by the inducements he offered, the relatives declared, when the Punyü Hien held an inquest on board, that it was their belief that the deceased had died from the blow of the hawser in its violent recoil after parting in two and not from any other cause.

No formal declaration of the judgment was made, but there was nothing further from the officials or the relatives.

Mr. T. R. Colledge, assistant surgeon to the factory, had opened a free clinic at Macao immediately after his arrival, devoting himself 'more particularly to those diseases which affect the organ of vision'. He was pleased with his success and, by a letter dated January 14, 1828, asked of Mr. Plowden the favour to be allowed to indent on the Court for the medicines he required. The Committee transmitted this with a strong recommendation in support.

There is a passing reference to the 'United Settlements of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca', an evident precursor of the later 'Straits Settlements'; and another reference to an 'Embassy from the Goorkahs to the Court of Pekin'.

The number of executions which took place at Canton during the year was as follows:

Decapitated without reference to Peking . . .	135
Decapitated or strangled by orders from Peking .	61
Cut to pieces for petty treason	3
	199

On July 1, 1827, the Committee record the arrival at Macao of one of the last of the Roman Catholic missionaries who, after the prohibition of their propaganda and the expulsion of their brethren in 1727, were allowed to remain in Peking because of their scientific attainments and their services in drawing up the calendar.

A Portuguese Missionary Padre Serra has arrived at Macao from Pekin. It appears that he applied for permission to return to Europe to see his aged Parents, a reason assigned probably as one conformable to Chinese principles. His application was immediately acquiesced in, and he at the same time received an order not again to return to Pekin. Since his arrival at Canton it is said he has attempted ineffectually to obtain permission to return. He wears the Chinese dress with a Cap

and Button and was accompanied by a considerable number of attendants. On reaching Macao an acknowledgement of his arrival was required in writing from the Portuguese Authorities and another directed to be given on his embarkation for Europe. One Portuguese Missionary now alone remains at Pekin enfeebled by age and infirmity. He is the last of the European Missionaries at Pekin who in former years combining the enthusiasm of religion with objects of Political ambition had at one time succeeded in obtaining so considerable an influence at Court as even to be admitted to private interviews with the Emperor. The value of the property belonging to them as well as to the French Mission, none of the Members of which now remain at Pekin, has been paid to them from the Imperial Treasury which as the greater part of it consisted of Gifts from former Emperors in houses and land, is a measure of liberal justice which could hardly have been expected. . . . The Russian Establishment still remains at Pekin but subjected to the closest restriction. It is chiefly for Commercial purposes though intelligent men are said to be connected with it.

THE COURT'S ESTIMATE OF THE INVESTMENT SEASON 1827

			£	£
Bengal Investment :	to England :	Piece Goods .	117,380	
		Raw Silk . .	974,400	
		Saltpetre . .	22,620	
		Sugar . .	111,360	
		Indigo . .	300,000	
			1,525,760	
	to China :	Raw Cotton .	364,935	
				1,890,695
Madras Investment :	to England :	Coast Piece Goods	212,156	
	to China :	Raw Cotton .	166,628	
				378,784
Bombay Investment :	to China :	Raw Cotton .	..	215,454
India and China to Cape of Good Hope . . .			..	10,000
China Investment :	to England :	Tea . . .	1,890,460	
	to Canada and Halifax :	Tea .	108,750	
				1,999,210
				4,494,143
Excess of Commercial Funds in 1827–8				193,824
		Total		4,687,967

THE COURT'S ESTIMATE OF COMMERCIAL FUNDS TO PROVIDE THE INVESTMENTS, SEASON 1827

	£	£
Political Charges in England from May, 1826, to April, 1827, including Pay Office Demands		1,862,400
Cost and Charges of Military and Public Stores .	931,677	
Marine Stores	44,572	
Stationary	35,000	
		1,011,249
Sales of Europe Goods : in three Presidencies . .	116,000	
in China	756,659	
		872,659
Produce in China of Company's Cotton, season 1827 :		
Bombay Cotton . .	170,625	
Bengal ,, . .	280,800	
Madras ,, . .	105,300	
		556,725
Amount to be paid into Canton Treasury by Commanders : for Bombay Cotton . .	85,972	
,, Bengal ,, . .	129,115	
,, Madras ,, . .	64,847	
		279,934
From Commanders for Certificates		105,000
Total		£4,687,967

IMPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1827 VALUE IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*					
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*	*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
Woollens	1,764,217	60,242	1,824,459	281,196	..	..
Metals	317,920	23,674	341,594	955,705 [3]	..	..
Furs	..	..	..	243,636	..	..
Other Western Produce	107,100 [1]	171,591 [2]	278,691	418,526 [4]	..	..
Western Produce	2,189,237	255,507	2,444,744	1,899,063	..	4,343,807
Cotton	2,307,216	3,480,083	5,787,299	16,991	..	..
Opium	..	11,243,496	11,243,496	800,000	2,891,000	..
Sandalwood	22,504	103,000	125,504	211,070	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	60,380	60,380	42,336	..	..
Pepper	..	99,764	99,764	..	..	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	603,413	603,413	348,649	..	..
Eastern Produce	2,329,720	15,590,136	17,919,856	1,419,046	2,891,000	22,229,902
Total Goods	4,518,957	15,845,643	20,364,600	3,318,109	2,891,000	26,573,709
Silver	..	..	..	2,450,000 [5]	..	2,450,000
Total Imports	4,518,957	15,845,643	20,364,600	5,768,109	2,891,000	29,023,709

[1] British calicoes, 15,300 pieces.
[2] Including cotton piece goods, 66,487 dollars; cotton yarn, 14,000 dollars; clocks and machinery, 84,000 dollars.
[3] Including quicksilver, 8,934 piculs, 696,852 dollars.
[4] Including ginseng, 866 piculs, 25,980 dollars; cotton piece goods, 81,237 pieces, 357,386 dollars; clocks and toys, 31,500 dollars.
[5] The American ships disposed in addition of about 500,000 dollars in bills on London.

EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1827. VALUE IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Ships: Number	28	42	70	29	2	101
Tonnage	31,000	31,500	62,500	12,470	1,500	76,470
Exports:						
Tea	8,470,285	692,767	9,163,052	3,235,620 [1]	..	..
Raw Silk	..	1,145,220	1,145,220	67,510	..	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	200,925	200,925	1,957,350 [2]	..	..
Nankeens	..	649,828	649,828	367,150	..	..
Tutenague	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Commodities	9,000	873,381	882,381	515,730 [3]	..	..
Total Goods	8,479,285	3,562,121	12,041,406	6,143,360	..	18,184,766
Silver	..	6,094,646	6,094,646	..	..	6,094,646
	8,479,285	9,656,767	18,136,052	6,143,360	..	24,279,412
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	151,400					
Factory Expenses	134,486	273,000	785,886	174,000	..	..
Ship Expenses	227,000					
	512,886	273,000	785,886	174,000	..	959,886
Cost of Investment	8,992,171	9,929,767	18,921,938	6,317,360	..	25,239,298

[1] Including 509,000 dollars value of shipments to Europe.
[2] Including sewing silk, 184 piculs, 82,687 dollars.
[3] Including 291,364 dollars of unclassified exports to South America, &c.

STATEMENT OF OPIUM DELIVERIES IN CHINA APRIL, 1827–MARCH, 1828

	Bengal. Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	*Total.* Chests.
In Stock, April, 1827 . .	997	392	..	1,389
Imported during year . .	6,359	4,752	1,000	12,111
	7,356	5,144	1,000	13,500
Deliveries: at Lintin . .	5,042	4,234	1,000	10,276
at Macao . .	72	127	..	199
Total . . .	5,114	4,361	1,000	10,475
In Stock, March, 1828 . .	2,242	783	..	3,025
Value of deliveries in dollars	5,105,073	5,251,760	800,000	11,156,833
Market price in dollars:				
highest	1,220	1,420	? 800	
lowest	800	950		

Neither the quantities delivered nor their value agree with the table of trade; those in this opium table are more likely to be correct.

DISTRIBUTION OF EXPORTS FROM CANTON IN AMERICAN SHIPS, SEASON 1827

			Dollars.	Dollars.
To UNITED STATES:				
Tea . . .	Piculs	66,017	2,726,190	
Raw Silk . . .	,,	157	67,510	
Sewing Silk . .	,,	184	82,687	
Silk Piece Goods .	Pieces	294,628	1,874,661	
Nankeens . . .	,,	524,500	367,150	
Matting . . .	Rolls	5,090	20,360	
Sugar . . .	Piculs	2,140	19,260	
Firecrackers . .	Boxes	419	838	
Sundries . . .	Value	..	160,310	
				5,318,966
To EUROPE:				
Tea	Piculs	12,110	509,430	
Cassia Bark . .	,,	1,100	17,600	
Sundries . . .	Value	..	6,000	
				533,030
To SOUTH AMERICA				166,174
To BATAVIA				33,190
To SANDWICH ISLANDS				92,000
	Total value of goods . .			6,143,360

LXXXV

THE HONG MERCHANTS AND THE SHOPKEEPERS, 1828

The Select Committee carried over into the season 1828, but on August 21st the Board was reconstituted with Mr. W. H. C. Plowden as President, Mr. William Baynes second member, Mr. Charles Millett third member, and Mr. James Bannerman fourth member. Mr. Marjoribanks sailed for Bombay on February 10, 1828, and returned in October following; he and Mr. Davis resumed their positions below the Committee; Mr. Davis left for England in November.

The books were opened on February 11th with the following balances:

			Tls.
Cr. by Silver in treasury, 17,905 dollars			12,892
Tea in stock, 38,628 piculs			769,730
Teak timber in stock			9,522
Factory account			3,673
Dead stock (furniture, &c.)			28,571
H.C. Schooner *Lavinia*			5,040
H.C. Sloop *Louisa*			7,317
Estate of Thomas Beale			110,891
			947,636
Dr. to Chinese merchants:	Goqua	280,956	
	Chunqua	107,002	
	Others	163,033	
			550,991
	Credit balance		396,645

The schooner *Lavinia* was condemned during the season and sold, realizing with her fittings 816 dollars.

The Company loaded with tea for London 20 ships of 27,062 tons, and for Halifax 2 ships of 1,147 tons; in addition the Company chartered to carry cotton to Canton 6 ships from

Calcutta and 2 from Bombay, about 6,000 tons. The stock was provided as follows :

	Tls.	Dollars.
Balance of assets as above	396,645	550,896
Proceeds of Imports : English products	2,168,988	3,011,988
Indian produce	1,388,384	1,928,311
Bills on Bengal : exch. 204 and 30 days		2,079,378
,, London : 4*s.* 2*d.* and 6 months		171,525
Certificates to commanders and officers		464,628
Cotton bonds of commanders		709,552
		8,916,278

The Company's investments were as follows :

	Tls.
Tea to London	5,443,118
Halifax	277,666
Cape of Good Hope	18,078
St. Helena	6,780
Indian ports	33,086
	5,778,728 = 8,026,012 dollars.

The principal features of the trade were as follows :

	Ships. No.	Tons.	*Cotton.* Piculs.	*Tea.* Piculs.	*Raw Silk.* Piculs.	*Silk Piece Goods.* Pieces.	*Nankeens.* Pieces.
English :							
Company	20	28,209	148,855	226,687[1]	..	..	4,000
Private	53	40,000	326,530	24,968[2]	7,248[3]	90,000	957,000
American	31	12,500	..	73,883	328	211,310	353,000
Dutch	6	4,500	..	..	..	..	..
French	3	2,250	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	1	750	..	..	..	..	..
Prussian	1	750	..	..	..	..	..
Sandwich Is.	2	750	..	..	..	..	..
	117	89,709	475,385	325,558	7,576	301,310	1,314,000

There were besides at Macao 18 Portuguese and 23 Spanish ships, all engaged in the country trade (India and the Islands), except one Portuguese from Lisbon. Of the country ships under the British flag 12 are indicated as ships ' which do not enter the River '. Except of the English Company's ships the tonnage is only estimated.

[1] Including 216,629 piculs to London and 10,058 piculs to Halifax, &c.

[2] Including 14,374 piculs in private trade to London, 10,594 piculs by country ships to India.

[3] Nanking silk, 4,519 piculs, Canton silk, 2,729 piculs.

Of the foreign residents in 1828 we find Mr. William Jardine and Mr. Hugh Matheson definitely attached to the firm of Magniac & Co., while Mr. Thomas Dent, Mr. Lancelot Dent, and Mr. Robert Hugh Inglis were still in the firm of Dent & Co. Not including Portuguese or natives of India, the foreign residents on April 1st were as follows :

British :		
Private	16	
Company	25	(on Sept. 4)
American	13	
Dutch	3	
Spanish	3	
French (Swiss) . . .	2	
Hanoverian. . . .	2	
	64	

The two Hanoverians bore the non-Teutonic names of Christopher Fearon (Consul) and Ilbery (Vice-Consul), their non-British official position enabling them to resist any order from the Select Committee to leave China. The same immunity was secured by others of the English residents ; but it was scorned by one at least among them, Mr. James Innes. In reply to a letter inquiring under what authority he ' continued to be a resident in China ', he declared that in December, 1825, he had ' received free merchants Indentures from the Hon'ble Court of Directors ', and enclosed a copy ; and he further welcomed the opportunity to declare his position in straightforward terms.

> If the Gentlemen entrusted with the power for the time here, consider the *non* residence of any British Subject here necessary for the public good, they will enforce that *non* residence against about 200 Parsees and forty born British Subjects, equally as against me, and however I may suffer, I shall yield a ready obedience to such authority, and suffer in silence, but as it has been reported to several of the Body of Directors that I came out here *clandestinely* and *secretly*, and I feel very much gratified in having so direct an opportunity given me of contradicting this in the *most* decided manner.

He had been advised to cover his residence in China by ' carrying in [his] pocket Letters of Consulship from some Independent State ' ; but other advisers had counselled otherwise, among them Sir William Fraser, from whom

> I received the most explicit declaration that such Consulship was totally unnecessary, as he himself had represented to the Hon'ble Court

of Directors the false policy of not encouraging respectable British Agents over whom the Court had power in preference to Americans and others over whom the Court had no control.

Mr. Innes was in later years to give the British authorities some trouble,[1] but at this date, November 30, 1828, the Committee gave him a certificate of character:

> We think it incumbent on us to remark in justice to Mr. Innes, that he has conducted himself with perfect propriety in the capacity of a British merchant, during the time that he has resided in this country, and we cannot but express our conviction that the residence of respectable Individuals, British Subjects in China is more desirable as far as the Interests of the Hon'ble Company are concerned, than that of Foreigners over whom we have no control and into whose hands the conduct of the very important Trade in Opium and other branches of the commerce with India will necessarily fall, if British Subjects are prohibited from forming commercial Establishments for that purpose in Canton.

The Company's staff consisted on September 4th of the following:

Select Committee, as at head of chapter 4

Supercargoes below the Committee:

Charles Marjoribanks (temporarily absent)
John Francis Davis
James Nugent Daniell
Thomas Charles Smith
John Jackson 5

Writers:

George Best Robinson (salary £1,000)
Robert Burland Hudleston (£1,000)
Hugh Hamilton Lindsay (£800)
John Harvey Astell (£400)
Henry Matthew Clarke (£400)
Henry Thomas Ravenshaw (£400)
Frederick John Morris (£100) 7

Salaried staff:

Chaplain: Rev. George Harvey Vachell (£800)
Translator: Rev. Dr. Robert Morrison (£1,000)
Surgeon: Alexander Pearson (£1,300 + 1,000 dollars)
,, Thomas Richardson Colledge (£1,000 + 1,000 dollars)
Tea Inspector: John Russell Reeves 5

[1] Cf. *postea*, p. 352; *International Relations*, vol. i, pp. 108, 152, 196, 230.

Servants, &c. :

Steward, James Canning (900 dollars + 100 dollars as Clerk to the Chapel)

Butler: William Spooner (750 dollars)

Assistant in the Office: A. Smith (1,000 dollars)

,, ,, J. Rose (800 dollars) . . 4

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Of these the Chinese student's allowance of £100 was issued to Messrs. Davis, Jackson, T. C. Smith, Lindsay, and Clarke ; while Mr. Jackson received in addition the annual allowance of £100 as a tea inspector, and a bonus of £500 on Mr. Reeves' certificate that he was now fully qualified.

With the work of Mr. Robinson, the senior writer, the Committee were by no means satisfied, and they called upon him to exercise more care in the exercise of his assigned duty, the supervision of the comprador's accounts, and, in particular, to show more readiness in obeying the orders given directly to him. In reply to a reprimand given by the President on August 4th, he addressed a letter to the Committee, the tone of which may be judged from its closing sentence—

> Finding that my best endeavors have only exposed me to what I feel to be your very unjust censure, I must beg to decline an office the duties of which render me constantly liable to such vexatious and frivolous remarks.

His was what a hundred years later would have been termed a bad case of swelled head (he was heir to a baronetcy), and the Committee promptly put him in his place. He was informed that it did not lie with him to decline any duty to which he was assigned, and that the President and the Committee expected from him a cheerful and intelligent obedience to their orders. A month later, on September 11th, after the reconstitution of the Committee, he was transferred to other duties, and took the opportunity of informing the Committee that he regretted his past ebullition of temper, and 'that no exertions on my part shall be wanting to perform my new duties to your satisfaction' ; and by another letter of the same date he applied for leave to go to England. As only nine months had elapsed since his return

from England, the Committee saw no reason for granting this leave. On November 6th he wrote a long letter of explanation and defence,

> on copying the Consultations and coming to that part of them respecting Compradore's accounts in which I regret to say my conduct is so severely animadverted upon and represented in so unfavourable a light to the Hon'ble Court.

He wrote at great length, and brought down on his head a minute from the President, Mr. Plowden, declaring that, if his repeated inattention to plain instructions were not wilful but proceeded from misconception, it could only be attributed to incapacity; from Mr. Millett, who expressed his concurrence, but declared that, if Mr. Robinson had tendered an apology instead of persisting in his offence, he would have been inclined to expunge the censure from the records; from Mr. Bannerman, who supported the President, and expressed his strong sense of the impropriety of the course adopted by Mr. Robinson; and from Mr. Baynes, who considered that, as the circumstances occurred before his arrival in China, strict impartiality demanded that he should not interfere in the business. In November an application from Mr. Robinson to go to Macao for change of air was refused; but one made on December 24th was granted.

In the records of this season we have for the first time a list of the Hong names of the seven merchants who now constituted the diminished body to which the Co-Hong was reduced, as follows:

Howqua—Ewo
Mowqua—Kwonglee
Chunqua—Tungshang
Puankhequa—Tungfoo
Fatqua—Manyune
Goqua—Tungyü
Kinqua—Tienpow
(Manhop—Folung)

Of these Hong Merchants Howqua in August repeated his request that he might be exempted from the obligation to secure any ships, but later he proposed to take the first ship,

> apprehending that some difficulty might occur with the Officers of the

Hoppos Department, were he entirely to desist from the practice of securing ships.

In a secret letter received before the arrival of the eighth ship the Court sanctioned his exemption, and he was not required to secure any more. The danger from being involved in any act of smuggling was very real. On October 21st some cornelian beads, which ' had been sold from the country ship *Sarah* to the people attached to the Hoppo Boat ', were seized by others of the Hoppo's people ; and on November 10th an officer of the country ship *Fort William* ' purchased the dress of a Mandarin of Rank and was conveying it to the Ship's Boat, when it was seized by the Custom House officers upon the grounds of its being illicit to export such an article of dress '. Kinqua was Security for both these ships, and was ' relieved from the embarrassments in which he had been involved ' by these two smuggling transactions only by paying a fine of 6,000 dollars—3,000 dollars for each act.

In another instance the contents of four cases, deposited in Mr. Fearon's hong from the ship *Lord William Bentinck*, were removed and ' Paper books ' were substituted, the sum of 600 dollars being paid to the inferior attendants from the Custom house to secure their connivance ; of this sum a portion came from the Security Merchant Puankhequa, but ' the principal part was exacted from the Linguist Achow '.

The transaction has fortunately been kept secret by those concerned in it but if it had been brought to the knowledge of the higher authorities in the Hoppos Department, Puankhequa would have been involved in a most serious prosecution and heavily fined by the Govt.

These acts of extortion were usually executed by the subordinates in the Chinese offices, but in some cases it was obvious that their superiors shared in the spoil, either directly by a share, or indirectly by a better price for the appointment. One minor cause of annoyance was the irregular levy of duty on the personal luggage of foreigners, often women and children, landing at Macao, and the Committee had frequent occasion to send a written remonstrance. In answer to one such protest the Hoppo, on August 13th, returned a mandate in which he declared that it was ' not permitted to extort money on foreigners luggage ', but laid much more stress on the obligation to submit to examina-

tion and abstain from smuggling. The comment of the Committee was as follows:

The Edict of the Hoppo appears to have been ruled by a determination not to express himself more favorably for the cause of Foreigners than he feels obliged to do in consequence of the Viceroy's proclamation which latter Document is certainly the most explicit and impartial which we can recollect to have been issued by the Local Authorities upon matters connected with Foreigners. The coldness evinced by the Hoppo is naturally attributable to the circumstance of the emoluments derived from the sale of this Praya Grande Custom House appointment being a perquisite of the Revenue Department, and enjoyed either by the Hoppo himself or some of his Inferior Officers.

A project was devised to circumvent the monopoly of the Hong Merchants on the one side, and of the Company on the other.

It has lately come to our notice that a Chinese named Le Kow-yay [the ninth son of Le] brother to Le Lok-yay [the sixth son of Le] an opulent Salt Merchant, had expressed a desire to form a Hong for the purpose of exclusively trading with the Americans, from whom and the outside Shopmen he expected to receive the Pecuniary aid necessary for the payment of Advances and Fees incident to the establishment of a new Hong. . . . The Hoppo who derives a large share of the Fees levied upon opening a new Hong favored the Project.

The Committee might approve the appointment of new Hong Merchants, but only on condition that they were acceptable to the present members; and it had been laid down by imperial decree that any new Hong Merchant must be approved and jointly secured by the existing Co-Hong. The present Hong Merchants disliked the prospect of admitting a colleague whose declared intention was to act as secret broker for shopkeepers, to whom the wholesale export and import trade was prohibited; and, in face of the difficulties, the Hoppo withdrew his approval.

This competition of the unprivileged shopkeepers was now seriously engaging the attention of the Hong Merchants, who desired to enforce the law to its letter. It had been their practice to lend their names to cover shipments by the ships for which they were Security, but now (March 8, 1828)

The Merchants stated to the Commēē their desire to suppress the Trade carried on by the Outside Shop Keepers thro' their Hongs, which while it yields a temporary profit of a trifling amount, eventually acts greatly to their prejudice.

By their representations to the Hoppo they had obtained the

issue at the Chinese New Year of a mandate reminding the linguists of the old prohibition and requiring them to see to its enforcement. The merchants had waited until the ships then in port should have sold their imports and completed their outward lading, and now they came to the Committee to invite their co-operation in restricting all foreign trade to the Hong Merchants. On March 25th they presented a copy of certain articles of agreement which they had adopted, together with lists comprising the principal articles of import and export, dealing in which was prohibited to all except members of the Co-Hong.

As the Merchants appear unanimous in their determination to suppress this illegal Trade and we are ourselves sufficiently impressed with the opinion that the evils resulting from the present System, in the form of Bankrupt Hongs, and competition between these illicit Traders and the Hong Merchants in their bargains with the Tea men eventually falls heavily upon our commerce, we willingly concur in giving our support. Every fresh Assessment for Debts of Bankrupt Hongs to Foreigners laid upon their surviving Colleagues, as well as Enhancement of price by Competition amongst Natives in the provision of the staple article of our Trade at this Port, must be reimbursed to the Hong Merchants by the imposition of additional Consoo Charges, and (independently of the just principle that those who alone bear all the exactions of the Govt should exclusively possess the Profits of their legal Monopoly in consideration of which those exactions are made) we view it also as a matter of serious importance that a system so pernicious to our Interests should be checked by every allowable expedient to which we can resort.

Now that unanimity had been obtained among the reduced number of Hong Merchants, it might be possible to exclude the shopkeepers from all share in the wholesale trade—and incidentally (though this was not clearly expressed) make it more difficult for the Americans to sell their English woven goods and buy their teas at prices more favourable than those obtainable by the Committee. They accordingly undertook to fine any Hong Merchant who should be proved clearly guilty of covering a shopkeeper by his name, to the extent of one of his shares in the Company's business ; and to enforce this penalty without delay, i. e. in the season in which the offence occurred. The agreement was at once broken by the Hong Merchants. Under date of April 12th they wrote—

The recently arrived Ships with Barbarian Merchants [American,

English country or Indian] who desire to continue the old mode of procedure, have repeatedly come to our Hongs and clamoured tumultuously, and moreover the Shopmen take their revenge and we are railed at interminably. We receiving the resentment and the clamour of the multitude are compelled to yield to the Barbarian Merchants that they may continue the old usage, to the end that we may avoid receiving their indignation.

The Committee were of course indignant that the merchants, who had first proposed the agreement, should at once break it; and viewing the repudiation only as a move in the battle of legality versus illegality, they decided to address the Viceroy and Hoppo conjointly,

and solicit their decision upon the legality of this outside Trade, which if given in its favor materially alters the character of the Commerce of this Port, but which if given in support of the old system of Monopoly will arm the Merchants with the power conferred by a Govt. decree to withstand the popular clamor of which they complain and silence any representations which might be made against them.

The next step in the conflict was an address to the Viceroy and the Hoppo, presented on April 24th by the American merchants Talbot, Olyphant, Dunn, Latimer, Lewis, Russell, Young Blight, Aborn, and Keating, complaining of a change in the procedure at Canton: formerly they could buy of many hongs and shops, the shops passing their goods under the name of a hong, but now it was forbidden to the shops to buy or sell with them; moreover the number of hongs was now so much reduced as to make it impossible for them to cope with the volume of business.

Further we beg your Excellencies to allow the establishment of a new Hong that shall not do Company's business, but only American business. Heretofore in all the Hongs there were few business people and no one to attend to us, and we requested the Shopmen to combine and form a Hong and trade, but now all the Shopmen are excluded from the Hongs, none of them are retained; this is by the overmastering decision of the Company and Howqua.

The Committee were indignant that the Americans should have charged them with the responsibility for the demand that the law should be enforced, and wrote to the Hong Merchants in that sense. Two days later Mr. Daniel C. Olyphant wrote to the Committee that

On the arrival of the ship *Citizen* I had contracted with Chunqua and with Tinqua (commonly called Squire) in Puankhequa's Hong and with

Linqua in Goqua's Hong for Silks to the amount of about 25,000 Dollars. These goods I have been endeavouring for a week to ship off. But it appears that some forfeiture is apprehended by the one who shall ship off first. . . . The avowed difficulty is the fear of losing the Company's business in consequence of some contract made to that effect. When the Hon'ble Company's name is thus made use of, I feel bound to enquire whether there is not a misconceived apprehension of its power, and seeing they have the power thus to overawe the Hong Merchants whether they will not interfere to direct its use to effect the ends of justice rather than permit it to act in a way of serious Injury to the American Trade the prosperity of which may not be disconnected with that of Great Britain.

In reply to this inquiry the Committee wrote

to express their surprise that you should have thought it necessary to ask a question which has been already assumed in a petition bearing your signature lately presented to the Canton Government.

They might otherwise have consented to overlook the absence of any representative character in Mr. Olyphant. On May 5th, having delayed some days lest he might be influenced by 'the angry feelings it [the letter] was calculated to excite', Mr. Olyphant wrote in reply to the Committee that

this Petition was made in consequence of their having in concert with the Co Hong endeavoured to establish new regulations in Trade contrary to the usages of the American Trade and detrimental to its Interests. It certainly became the Americans to resist with such arguments and might as they could the adoption of the new system. . . . It is I believe generally thought that the Committee's conduct in this unhappy and unrequired conflict requires explanations. But I did not ask them and it is to be regretted the Committee so understood me, for unless they did their Courtesy as Gentlemen would not certainly have permitted them, rudely in intimating that I was not a proper person for such communications, wantonly to resort to Insult, when it rather became them to heal the wounds they were giving to justice.

The Committee in consultation agreed that

we look upon the whole of Mr. Olyphant's communication as perfectly unworthy of notice in point of argument and shall therefore adhere to our former determination of abstaining from any further communication with him.

The Viceroy's reply, which was handed down on May 9th, was on all points adverse to the plea of the Americans, and required them to conform to the old regulation of Kienlung 45th year and Kiaking 25th year, by which the shopkeepers were admitted to

trade with foreigners in eight commodities only, dealing in all others (including especially tea and silk) being restricted to the Hong Merchants. On this the Committee commented as follows :

The tenor of this Document is most satisfactory as it determines the point of the illegality of the Outside Trade and clearly refutes all the pretensions of the American Merchants to establish their right to carry on their dealings thro' that channel by former precedents. In the present juncture of affairs His Excellency's proclamation was much required to give the necessary support to the cause of the Hong Merchants and we hope it will determine finally the merits of this Question.

This hope was one in which the Committee were destined to be disappointed; for the pressure exerted by the American merchants (and, we may assume, the British country traders as well) on the Hong Merchants was so strong that the latter found it expedient to compromise matters with the shopkeepers. On July 19th a mandate from the Viceroy was handed down declaring that

24 categories of native exports, including tea, raw silk, rhubarb, nankeens, &c., 53 categories of foreign imports, including eight kinds of woollens, six kinds of foreign metals, ginseng, furs, sandalwood, &c., might be dealt in only by the Hong Merchants. All other commodities might be traded in by the Shopkeepers, including the most important category of Silk Piece Goods, of which no more than 8,000 catties (80 piculs) were allowed to be exported by any one ship ; the Shopkeepers trade was, however, still to pass under the name of the Security Merchant.

The comment of the Committee was as follows :

The failure of the Hong Merchants original plan has exposed their own weakness, proclaimed the strength of the opposite party, and elicited from Govt the imposition of additional burthens and responsibility upon their already oppressed body. The principal features in the decision of the Canton authorities appear to be as follows—

First that the Hong Merchants are answerable for all the Duties incurred in the shipment of goods by the Outside Dealers. Secondly that the Hong Merchants are considered responsible for all smuggling which may occur in the transactions of these traders.

. . . The injustice of the two former regulations, that the Hong Merchants shall be answerable for the Duties and Smuggling of a class of people over whom they have no control, and to whose Trade the present Commands of the Govt require them to afford the facilities of their Hong is in unison with the generality of the acts of the Local Authorities with reference to the established Monopoly of the Merchants.

As far as concerned themselves the Committee accepted the

decision of the Viceroy and Hoppo and were prepared to support the Hong Merchants in enforcing their monopoly over the twenty-four categories of exports and fifty-three of imports, by withdrawing or reducing the share in the Company's business which might have been assigned to an offender. The proportions of this distribution may be judged from the contracts for tea which were made in March 1828:

	Bohea. Piculs.	*Congou.* Chests.	*Twankay.* Chests.	*Wopung.* Piculs.
Howqua . . .	..	28,000	13,000	..
Mowqua . . .	..	21,000	10,000	..
Chunqua . . .	21,750	21,000	10,000	..
Puankhequa . .	..	21,000	11,000	..
Goqua . . .	9,198	21,000	11,000	2,000
Kinqua . . .	..	17,000	6,000	..
Fatqua . . .	..	17,000	4,000	..
	30,948	146,000	65,000	2,000

For some years past the number of Security Merchants had been eleven, but they were now reduced to seven, and of these one, Kinqua, became seriously involved through the cases of smuggling from the *Sarah* and the *Fort William* referred to above.[1] An attempt was made to save Manhop from bankruptcy by the recovery of 30,000 bales of cotton which had been surreptitiously removed by his Chinese creditors; but this failed, and for his debts to foreigners, amounting to more than 1,900,000 dollars, no cover remained. He was declared bankrupt on May 10, 1828, the authorities ordering that the foreign creditors (American and Indian country) should be paid from the Consoo fund in eight annual instalments; and when they protested the term was reduced to seven years.

The merchant Pacqua (Exchin) had been sentenced to transportation to Ili, and in August he petitioned the Committee for help to enable him to maintain himself. The Committee allotted the sum of 1,500 dollars, to be added to the same sum subscribed by the Co-Hong, and handed the money to Howqua to be conveyed discreetly to the bankrupt.

The Chinese were not always the debtors, and in December the Committee received a petition from several shopkeepers of

[1] Cf. *antea*, p. 167.

Canton charging that four Parsee merchants had ' run away ', or at any rate had returned to Bombay, owing them collectively a total of 115,720 dollars. The Committee could do nothing in the matter beyond reporting the facts to the Governor in Council at Bombay.

In recent years the ordinary abbreviation for dollars, where any was used, has been D^{lls} or D^{lrs}, and these are used in this season, except in two accounts in which, for the first time, the symbol $ is used together with D^{lls}.

By a proclamation recorded on May 24th the Viceroy reiterates his injunction that all representations to the authorities are to be made through the Security Merchant, and that the practice of presenting petitions at the city gate is strictly prohibited.

> If any again presume to approach the City Gate to present a petition the foreigner doing so shall assuredly be punished, and the Security Merchant of the said Foreigner, who may have failed to discover it, shall together with him be severely punished.

The Viceroy even, in July, undertook to suppress the right exercised by the Committee since 1814 of presenting their petitions rendered into Chinese by their own translator. Against this suppression the Committee protested, and the Viceroy expressed his regret that he had been misunderstood.

In October a military official stationed between Canton and Whampoa reported a great increase in the numbers of foreigners who made excursions in sailing-boats or row-boats, usually between 4 and 7 p.m. The Viceroy then issued a proclamation forbidding the practice, characterized by the Committee in the following terms:

> . . . an Edict of the Viceroy upon the amusement of boat sailing, the object of which appears to be to rescind the only opportunity of enjoying fresh air which comes within the compass of the very limited recreations permitted to foreigners in this country.

This was coincident in date with a complaint by the Committee that the Punyü Hien's officers had seized a messenger from the Company's ship *Orwell* bringing an official letter to the Committee, and in this action a mandate from the Viceroy upheld the Punyü Hien; there does not appear to have been a relation of cause and effect between the two, but the Committee decided that

the Tenor of this Proclamation as well as that prohibiting sailing in boats appear to require a spirited remonstrance on our part which it is hoped if timely presented, may check the increasing inclination of the Viceroy to give annoyance to us both in the conduct of our mercantile affairs and to curtail those very limited means of recreation enjoyed by us in this country. An inimical Spirit towards foreigners is very observable in this officer and we resolve to meet it by such a temperate but forcible representation of grievances as is calculated to convince him of the impolicy of attempting further invasions of our privileges.

A third cause of annoyance had been felt since the spring of 1828. The water at the landing-place in front of the Company's factory being shallow, the landlords agreed to extend the jetty a short distance. Work had been begun on this extension when it was stopped by the Namhoi Hien without reason assigned. At the end of August, on the arrival of the direct ships, the Hoppo sent to ask that the woollens might be landed without delay in order that the duties might be brought within the current financial year; and to this request the Committee, then at Macao, replied (September 2nd) requesting the Hong Merchants to inform the Hoppo that 'after the landing place is completed we may then unload the Ships'. Then on October 17th

Howqua called upon the President and informed him that he had been sent for by the Viceroy and had had a long private audience with him. The Viceroy had given directions for the immediate recommencement of Operations in the Square in front of the Company's Factory and had expressed much displeasure at the delay which had been occasioned by the Namhoy Yune in carrying into effect the orders which he had previously given upon the subject. The free transmission of Letters between Canton and Whampoa was a point conceded by the Viceroy and as was formerly the practice will be carried on thro' the medium of the Compradores. The Viceroy promised to issue orders for the release of the Ships Compradore who had been detained and imprisoned [since August 17th] by the Heongshan Yune at the instance of the tide waiters of Macao, whose conduct would be immediately investigated. Howqua further assured the President that the Viceroy would for the future adhere to the ancient Usage with regard to receiving and replying to our Letters to him. With respect to the other subjects of complaint . . . the Viceroy on the whole has assumed a reasonable and moderate tone.

As is so often seen in China, the high officials, supposed to be armed with authority, might be reasonable and moderate in their tone, but their subordinates frequently proved reluctant to obey their orders. This was seen in connexion with the extension of

the landing-stage. A mandate was issued by the Namhoi Hien on November 8th, authorizing the extension; but the authorization was strictly within the letter of the Viceroy's sanction; and, on February 20, 1829, as their last act before leaving for Macao, the Committee begged the Viceroy that

his Excellency will be pleased forthwith to sanction the completion of the work [of extending the landing-stage] and surrounding the same with a wall to prevent the trespassing of strangers and render the Ground private and appropriate as a place of exercise for the use of the Gentlemen of the Factory.

The affair of H.M.S. *Topaze* came up for review every year or two, and, as usual, came up this season by a petition addressed to the newly appointed Provincial Judge. His judgment was downright in its rejection of any claim to reopen the question—

The said murderous foreigner dreading the consequences of his crime fled, and the then Viceroy and Fooyuen reported the case to His Imperial Majesty who ordered that the Hong Merchants should communicate an order to the English Chief requiring him to send a letter to the said Nation's Company to investigate and find out the said murderous Foreigners proper person and themselves inflict capital punishment upon him. The said Nation at an early period reverently obeyed and acted accordingly. You Petitioners before applied to the Govt. and received an explicit decision. There is no use in your again bringing forward accusations at this office.

There is no reason to think that the judge believed in the truth of his own statements, or that he expected to be believed by the people of Lintin; but in his judgment he followed the line of least resistance. In the case of an affray all Chinese authorities were inclined to accept the assumption that their own countrymen were always in the right, and the foreigners in the wrong; but when there was a clear case of an unprovoked attack by Chinese on foreigners, the officials acted promptly and vigorously.

The French ship *Navigateur* on voyage from Manila to Cochin-China was wrecked on the coast of Cochin-China; the crew of fourteen French sailors and her lading of 30,000 dollars in specie and goods of almost equal value were saved, and her captain contracted with a Chinese junk to carry them to Macao for 1,200 dollars. From some suspicious indications the French were on the alert, but off the Grand Ladrone their vigilance was relaxed through the nearness of their destination, and they were

set upon by the crew of the junk and others coming from Macao. Of the fourteen sailors, twelve were killed ' under circumstances of the most disgusting cruelty ', and two jumped overboard; one succumbed to his wounds, but the other was ultimately picked up by a Fast Boat and brought into Macao on August 5th. The facts were reported to the authorities, and in the middle of January, 1829, fifteen of the crew of the Chinese junk were returned from Fukien to Canton, where on January 23rd

the principal culprits were identified by the survivor of the Massacre Francisco Mangipané in the Consoo Hall where a sitting was held for the purpose by the Quangchowfoo and some other Police Magistrates. The Activity and Energy which have been evinced by the Chinese Govt. in bringing these offenders to punishment have excited great astonishment and are deserving of the highest commendation. Their desire to give the most ample satisfaction to Foreigners has been strongly marked in every stage of the proceeding and we understand is the effect of the Emperor's most positive orders. . . . The free access to the Court of Justice held there [in the Consoo Hall] is a proof that the Govt are desirous to give the utmost publicity to their proceedings on this occasion, and it must be admitted that if they are tenacious of requiring the sanguinary atonement of life for life from Foreigners they have shewn in the present instance that however insurmountable the difficulties may at first sight appear they will execute a reciprocal justice upon their own countrymen where they are the offenders . . . and we have only to express our regret that the Administration of Justice in China is not tempered with discernment as well as severity.

The accused were found guilty and were executed on January 30th—sixteen decapitated and one killed by the slicing process—in the presence of several foreigners, who were present by invitation and were provided with a military escort.

On Sunday afternoon, December 14, 1828, five officers went from the *Marquis of Huntly* for a walk on French Island at Whampoa. Two of the party, separated from the others, were threatened and chased by a crowd of 200 villagers; and soon all five were chased by about 300 Chinese. Being rescued by the boat's crew, they chased in turn, and capturing one of the villagers carried him on board their ship. All five were bruised and had their nerves affected, but none were wounded. People from the ships had been expressly forbidden to land on French Island, and the Committee condemned the action of the senior officer in taking the law into his own hands,

that officer having no rule to warrant his proceeding on shore which on the contrary is against fixed regulations could expect no redress for the ill usage he sustained from the natives. . . . The attempt to retaliate was therefore very improper and the act of bringing off a man to the ship a still more absurd attempt to gain redress. We think it necessary to express our sentiments upon this occasion in a manner which shews that we totally disapprove such proceedings.

For the second year in succession the Committee were able to give a good account of British calicoes, which were 'held in general estimation in the market', and were 'likely to continue in steady and regular demand'. The market was, however, overstocked by importations on private account, and no more than 6·10 dollars a piece could be obtained, but even at this price 'a small gain will appear in our Account Sales'. A new venture was made with 300 bales of cotton twist (cotton yarn), regarding which the Committee record—

We cannot at present hold out any hope that this will prove an advantageous article of Consignment to this country. The Dealers are all agreed as to the following—viz. that the quality of Twist from the number of 8 Hanks to the pound to that of 26 Hanks to the pound inclusive and which constitute the three prices of 10*d.*, 10½*d.*, & 11½*d.*, are of a quality too coarse for the Chinese Market and for which little or no sale would be found; that again the numbers from 40 Hanks to 140 Hanks of the prices 18½*d.*, 22½*d.*, 2*s.* 4*d.*, 2*s.* 9*d.*, 3*s.* 2*d.*, 3*s.* 11*d.*, 4*s.* 5*d.*, & 6*s.* 4*d.*, are still more unsaleable being of so fine a quality that the machinery in use among the Chinese is not capable of manufacturing it, and also that cloth of so fine a texture is in little use among the natives of this country; that the intermediate numbers viz. from 28 Hanks to 38 Hanks to the pound including the prices of 14*d.*, 16*d.*, 16½*d.*, and 17½*d.*, are those most in request and for which the best price will be obtained. Mowqua has now made an offer of 34 dollars ℔ Pecul for the whole consignment of 300 Bales.

These comments were made on the trade in its cradle; but after the experience of a hundred years it is found that, in an importation which in some years has reached a million bales, the Chinese market demands for the greater part, almost entirely it may be said, counts of yarn from 12 to 24.

In this season the American trade continued the process which had been begun the year before, of taking some portion of the stock required in the shape of bills on the Bank of the United States or on London exchange banks, and thereby reducing the

amount of specie imported. This made it the more imperative that specie should not be shipped back to India to balance the Indian trade, but should be retained in Canton to balance the London trade. This was effected by the bills drawn on Bengal; and in writing on September 28, 1828, to the Supreme Government at Calcutta, the Committee referred to the unusually large importation of Malwa opium, the necessity of returning the proceeds to India, and the fact that, in order to attract the specie to their own treasury, they had been obliged to offer bills at 204 Sicca Rs. per 100 dollars; they then added—

> The Scarcity of Dollars in Canton and the expected arrival of American Ships, which it is thought will bring Bills upon the Bank of the United States have been a further inducement for offering these favorable terms.

In the fiscal years ending June 30th the American Customs returns show that American ships cleared for Canton took bills to the amount of 400,000 dollars in 1827, and 300,000 dollars in 1828.

The record contains, in an extract from the Manila Commercial Register, a dispatch from the Sub-Deputy-Superintendent of the Royal Revenue of the Philippine Islands, dated Madrid, April 6, 1828, to the Governor of the Philippines, beginning as follows:

> As it seems unnecessary any longer to forego the immense Profit which must arise from the growth of Opium in the Philippine Island, His Majesty has been pleased to determine that free permission be given to every respectable Capitalist who can find security for his good conduct to farm the above mentioned article and to export it from those possessions.

Elaborate conditions were prescribed under which the opium was to be produced, and the treasury was to receive a Customs duty of '25 per cent on the value of the said article to be regulated by the current prices in China'; but procrastination was so deeply imbedded in the Spanish character that no steps were taken to carry this project into effect in the seventy years for which the Spanish domination in the Philippines was still to endure.

THE COURT'S ESTIMATE OF THE INVESTMENT, SEASON 1828

			£	£
Bengal Investment:	to England:	Piece Goods	125,148	
		Raw Silk	893,200	
		Saltpetre	22,620	
		Sugar	111,360	
		Indigo	400,000	
			1,552,328	
	to China:	Raw Cotton	327,092	
				1,879,420
Madras Investment:	to England:	Coast Piece Goods	218,176	
	to China:	Raw Cotton	148,114	
				366,290
Bombay Investment:	to China:	Raw Cotton	..	215,454
India and China to Cape of Good Hope			..	10,000
China Investment:	to England:	Tea	1,850,403	
	to Halifax:	Tea	100,000	
				1,950,403
		Total		4,421,567

THE COURT'S ESTIMATE OF COMMERCIAL FUNDS TO PROVIDE THE INVESTMENTS, SEASON 1828

	£	£
Political Charges in England from May, 1827, to April, 1828, including Pay Office Demands		1,649,597
Cost and Charges of Military and Public Stores	414,946	
Marine Stores	35,200	
Stationery	35,000	
		485,146
		2,134,743
Sales of Europe Goods: in three Presidencies	58,000	
in China	768,566	
		826,566
Produce in China of Company's Cotton, season 1828:		
Bombay Cotton, 40,950 piculs	163,800	
Bengal ,, 57,240 ,,	228,960	
Madras ,, 21,600 ,,	86,400	
		479,160
Amount to be paid into Canton Treasury by Commanders: for Bombay Cotton	85,972	
,, Bengal ,,	114,051	
,, Madras ,,	57,642	
		257,665
From Commanders, &c., for Certificates		100,000
		3,798,134
Deficiency of Commercial Funds in 1828–9		623,433
Total		4,421,567

IMPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1828. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	British. Company.	British. Private.	British. Total.	American.	Other Flags.	Total.
Woollens	2,701,658	103,370	2,805,028	323,600	..	..
Metals	240,714	18,153	258,867	643,607 [2]	..	..
Furs	..	..	..	269,398	..	..
Other Western Products	69,614 [1]	185,022 [1]	254,636	321,873 [3]	..	..
Western Products	3,011,986	306,545	3,318,531	1,558,478	..	4,877,009
Cotton	1,836,613	3,767,340	5,603,953	..	..	..
Opium	..	10,908,852	10,908,852	816,725 [4]	..	..
Sandalwood	91,699	197,840	289,539	127,442	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	114,740	114,740	12,600	..	..
Pepper	..	26,250	26,250	..	..	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	1,051,661	1,051,661	126,120	..	..
Eastern Produce	1,928,312	16,066,683	17,994,995	1,082,887	..	19,077,882
Total Goods	4,940,298	16,373,228	21,313,526	2,641,365	..	23,954,891
Silver	..	..	..	732,200 [5]	..	732,200
Total Imports	4,940,298	16,373,228	21,313,526	3,373,565	..	24,687,091

[1] British cotton manufactures.

[2] Including quicksilver, 6,374 piculs, 446,180 dollars; spelter, 1,415 piculs, 8,490 dollars; American copper, 3,237 piculs, 79,306 dollars.

[3] Including ginseng, 1,754 piculs, 127,460 dollars; cotton manufactured goods, 174,413 dollars.

[4] Turkey opium, 1,256 chests.

[5] In addition to bills of exchange for 657,300 dollars.

EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1828. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.* *Company.*	*Private.*	*Total.*	*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
Ships: Number	20	53	73	31	13	117
Tonnage	28,209	40,000	68,209	12,500	9,750	90,459
Exports:						
Tea	7,669,986	870,869	8,540,855	2,777,318	..	..
Raw Silk	..	2,529,289	2,529,289	144,320	..	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	460,702	460,702	1,053,107 [2]	..	..
Nankeens	3,200	648,789	651,989	324,982	..	..
Tutenague	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Commodities	3,000	1,744,963 [1]	1,747,963	252,473	..	..
Total Goods	7,676,186	6,254,612	13,930,798	4,552,200	..	18,482,998
Silver	..	4,703,202	4,703,202	..	..	4,703,202
	7,676,186	10,957,814	18,634,000	4,552,200	..	23,186,200
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	127,108					
Factory Expenses	138,504	295,000	726,612	98,000	..	..
Ship Expenses	166,000					
	431,612	295,000	726,612	98,000	..	824,612
Cost of Investment	8,107,798	11,252,814	19,360,612	4,650,200	..	24,010,812

[1] Including American copper, 2,000 piculs, 50,000 dollars.
[2] Including sewing silk, 144 piculs, 64,800 dollars.

DISTRIBUTION OF EXPORTS FROM CANTON BY AMERICAN SHIPS, SEASON 1828

			Dollars.	Dollars.
To United States:				
Tea	Piculs	50,747	1,842,766	
Raw Silk	,,	68	29,920	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	211,310	988,307	
Sewing Silk	Piculs	144	64,800	
Nankeens	Pieces	392,900	282,982	
Matting	Rolls	1,590	7,950	
Cassia Bark	Piculs	2,916	40,824	
Sugar	,,	2,243	20,187	
Sundries		..	59,744	
				3,337,480
To Europe:				
Tea	Piculs	23,136	934,552	
Raw Silk	,,	260	114,400	
Nankeens	Pieces	60,000	42,000	
Cassia Bark	Piculs	1,787	25,018	
Sugar	,,	2,400	21,600	
Sundries		..	7,150	
				1,144,720
To South America and Sandwich Islands				70,000
Total				4,552,200

STATEMENT OF THE OPIUM TRADE, SEASON APRIL, 1828, TO MARCH, 1829

	Bengal. Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	*Total.* Chests.
On hand, April 1, 1828	2,242	783	..	3,025
Imports	4,317	7,092	1,256	12,665
	6,559	7,875	1,256	15,690
Deliveries: Lintin	5,704	7,010	..	..
East Coast	170	30	..	..
Macao	87	131	..	..
Total	5,961	7,171	1,256	14,388
On hand, March 31, 1829	598	704	..	1,302
Market prices in dollars:				
Highest	1,040	1,250	650	
Lowest	840	830		

LXXXVI

STATE OF THE FACTORIES, 1829

The season 1829 opened with the Select Committee composed of Mr. Plowden (President), and Messrs. Baynes, Millett, and Bannerman. On the departure of Mr. Plowden for England, Mr. Baynes became President from February 1, 1830, and Mr. James Frederick Nugent Daniell fourth member. The books were opened on February 23, 1829, with the following balances:

	Tls.
Cr. by Silver in treasury, 76,439 dollars	55,036
Tea in stock, 54,761 piculs	1,105,704
Teak timber unsold	6,595
Factory account	21,821
Estate of Thomas Beale	110,891
Dead stock (furniture, &c.)	20,479
Hon'ble Company's Sloop	9,887
	1,330,413
Dr. to owed to Chinese merchant Manhop	592
Credit balance	1,329,821

During the season the Company loaded with tea 23 ships of 29,077 tons b.m. for London and 2 of about 1,050 tons for Halifax. The funds with which to provide the investment were obtained by the Canton treasury as follows:

	Dollars.
Credit assets as above, Tls. 1,329,821	1,846,974
Sale of imports: Western products, Tls. 1,957,327	2,718,384
Eastern ,, ,, 1,271,315	1,765,715
Bills on London: exch. 4*s.* 1½*d.* and 6 months	111,740
to Staff for salaries, £12,028	58,318
Bills on Bengal: exch. 202 Sa. rup. and 30 days	821,521
Certificates to commanders and officers	445,282
Cotton bonds of commanders	446,115
Tls. 5,914,115 =	8,214,049

The Company's investments were as follows:

	Tls.
To London	5,377,948
Halifax	227,259
Cape of Good Hope	15,756
St. Helena	8,052
	5,629,015 = 7,818,076 dollars.

The main features of the trade of Canton were as follows:

	Ships.		*Cotton.*	*Tea.*	*Raw Silk.*	*Silk Piece Goods.*	*Nankeens.*
	No.	Tons.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Pieces.
English:							
Company	25	30,127	119,648	230,061 [1]	..	..	1,500
Private	47	23,573	256,313	22,398 [2]	5,990 [3]	80,000	703,500
American	40	16,000	..	66,204 [4]	347	186,653	350,000
Dutch	7	10,000	..	7,860	130	750	..
French	2		..	..	..	..	..
Danish	7		..	..	..	..	..
Sandwich Is.	1		..	..	..	..	..
	129	79,700	375,961	326,523	6,467	267,403	1,055,000

In addition from March, 1829, to February, 1830, there cleared from Macao 27 Spanish and 17 Portuguese ships, all engaged in the country trade to India and the islands, except two Portuguese cleared for Lisbon.

The market for woollens was very dead, and the Committee had to accept lower prices, as under:

	Price 1828.	*Price* 1829.
Broadcloth, Superfine, per yard	Tls. 1·50	Tls. 1·45
Supers, ,,	,, 1·05	,, 1·00
Worsters, ,,	,, 0·95	,, ·90
Long Ells, per piece	,, 6·00	,, 5·80
Camlets, ,,	Doll. 27·50	Doll. 26·00

The camlets were sold to Howqua; the Long Ells were distributed in proportion to the tea contracts; and the broadcloth was shared as under:

Howqua	4 shares	Goqua	3 shares
Mowqua	3 ,,	Kinqua	2 ,,
Puankhequa	3 ,,	Fatqua	2 ,,

[1] To England, 220,014 piculs; to Nova Scotia, 10,047 piculs.
[2] To England, 15,500 piculs; to India, 6,898 piculs.
[3] Nanking silk, 3,746 piculs; Canton silk, 2,244 piculs.
[4] Tea to United States, 61,634 piculs; to Europe, 2,520 piculs; to Brazil, 2,037 piculs.

British calicoes sold well, 22,750 pieces realizing Tls. 118,836; and cotton twist (yarn) again did well, an importation of 2,250 piculs, invoiced f.o.b. £15,324 and c.i.f. £17,332, being sold for Tls. 56,700 (£18,900 at the conventional exchange, and £16,245 at the exchange of the season). Raw cotton had a bad market, partly because of the large import (376,000 piculs), partly because of the delay occasioned by the embargo, but to some extent because of the competition of English woven cottons imported from England in American ships, and from Singapore in British ships originally direct from England; for it had been discovered that, India having in 1813 been thrown open to English traders, and the Straits Settlements being within the limits of administrative India, a British ship might be cleared from England to Singapore, and there receive from the Resident a licence to sail with her original cargo to China. In commenting on a memorial from the Parsee merchants of Bombay, the Committee at a consultation of June 28, 1829, record a minute:

> Cotton is at present almost a dead weight in the Canton market; some of the Hong Merchants have Cotton now in their possession purchased two years ago. The foreign [Indian] Cotton is principally consumed as we understand in the Province of Canton, and the market is of course very materially affected by the importation of manufactured Cotton Goods and Cotton Yarn from Great Britain. Independent of the importation on the Ships of the Hon'ble Company, a great and encreasing quantity has been of late years supplied to the market by way of Sincapore; and indeed the facility afforded to British Ships to come on from thence under the License of the Resident, has effectually destroyed the Company's Monopoly in British Goods on British Vessels from England to China. The Trade thence is now as open to British Vessels as it has been to Americans direct from England.

The foreign residents other than Portuguese on March 15, 1829, were:

British: Company's factory:

Mr. W. H. C. Plowden, President
Mr. W. Baynes, Treasurer
Mr. C. Millett, Supt. of Exports
Mr. J. Bannerman, Supt. of Imports } Select Committee
Mr. J. F. N. Daniell, Supercargo, Sub-Treasurer & Comprador
Mr. T. C. Smith ,, Accountant
Mr. J. Jackson ,, Secretary
Mr. G. B. Robinson, Writer, Assistant Secretary

Mr. R. B. Hudleston, Writer, Superintendent of Office
Mr. H. H. Lindsay, ,, Dep. Supt. of Imports
Mr. J. H. Astell ,, Collator of the Records
Mr. H. M. Clarke, ,, Dep. Supt. of Exports
Mr. J. B. Thornhill, ,,
Mr. H. T. Ravenshaw, ,,
Mr Frederick John Morris, Writer } to copy Records
Mr. James William H. Campbell, ,,
Mr. Henry Robert Alexander, ,, } to assist generally
Rev. George Harvey Vachell, Chaplain (£800)
Rev. Dr. Robert Morrison, Translator & Interpreter (£1,000)
Alexander Pearson, Surgeon (£1,300)
Thomas Richardson Colledge, Asst. Surgeon (£1,000)
(John Livingstone died at sea July 8th, returning to China)
John Reeves, Tea Inspector (£2,000)
John Russell Reeves, Dep. Tea Inspector (£500)
James Canning, Steward and Clerk in the Chapel (1,100 dollars)
William Spooner, Butler (800 dollars)

Firm of Thomas Dent & Co.
Mr. Thomas Dent, Sardinian Consul
Mr. Lancelot Dent
Mr. Robert Inglis
Mr. R. Wilkinson

Firm of Magniac & Co.
Mr. W. Jardine, Danish Consul
Mr. J. Matheson
Mr. F. Hollingworth
Mr. A. Matheson
Mr. H. Wright
Mr. T. C. Beale

Private British merchants :
Mr. Ilberry, Hanoverian Consul
Mr. C. Fearon, Hanoverian Vice-Consul
Mr. A. Robertson, Sicilian Consul
Mr. J. Innes
Mr. Wm. White
Mr. Templeton
Mr. J. Gover
Mr. Manson
Mr. T. Beale
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Just, Watchmaker
Mr. Chinnery, Portrait Painter
Richard Markwick, Shopkeeper 23
and a considerable number of Parsees.

AMERICANS :

Mr. Forbes, Consul
Mr. Latimer — Mr. Ogden
Mr. Russell — Mr. Dunn
Mr. Gordon — Mr. I. Jenkins
Mr. Sturgess — Mr. Bradford, Surgeon
Mr. R. Sturgess — Mr. French, Shopkeeper
Mr. Hart
Mr. Blight (in the firm of Thos. Dent & Co.) 13

DUTCH : Mr. Van Caneghem, Consul
Mr. Van Basil, Secretary
Mr. Vandermeulen 3

FRENCH : Mr. Gernaert, Consul
Mr. E. Bovet, Watchmaker
Mr. C. Bovet, ,, 3

SWEDISH : Sir A. Ljungstedt
Mr. Ullman
Mr. I. Ullman 3

SPANISH : Don Gabriel Yuretagoyena
Don Pedro
Señor Ybar
,, Ascarega 4

Making a total of 74.

The amount to be paid in dollars for certificates was again varied in this season, the amount in sterling being a fixed sum of £5,000 for each ship.

It has been the intention of the Hon'ble Court that the Commanders and Officers of the H.C. Ships should pay into our Treasury a sum of Money in Dollars equal to 5,000£ in the privilege of Certificates. It has been necessary to vary the amount of Dollars occasionally with reference to the value of that coin in England. The Rate of 4*s*. 3*d*. per Dollar was assumed in the latest calculation of Certificate Allowance, but as the Exchange has now fallen as low as 4 shillings per Dollar, it seems fair to encrease the amount in Dollars which we shall have to receive from the Commanders and Officers of our Ships in this Privilege. We therefore determine to fix the sum at Dollars 25,000 for each Ship, which at 4*s*. per Dollar is equal to 5000£.

The amount to be received for each officer's privilege was then settled on the following basis :

	Dollars.	£
Commander	17,242	3,448
First Officer	1,724	345
Second Officer	1,148	230
Third Officer, Surgeon, Purser	862	172
Fourth Officer, Asst. Surgeon	574	115
Fifth Officer, Boatswain, Gunner, Carpenter	288	57
	25,000	5,000

On February 9, 1830, the trustees paid to the Committee a sum of 18,305 dollars as a final dividend on the debt of Mr. Thomas Beale to the Company. This is the only receipt under this head recorded during the season; but the asset of Tls. 110,891 (154,014 dollars) disappears from the accounts.

The English merchants whose residence in China was tolerated by the Committee were as yet debarred from direct trade with England; but they acted as agents for consignors in India, as did the Americans and the Parsees, and some small measure of their operations may be found in their applications for the Company's bills on Bengal. The proportions are obscured by our ignorance of the parties concerned in the shipments of silver; but we have at least the fact that, in a season in which silver was shipped to Calcutta to the amount of 2,575,931 dollars and to Bombay of 2,995,617 dollars, the Committee issued bills on Bengal for the equivalent of 821,520 dollars paid into the treasury by

	Dollars.
English merchants	515,456
Parsee ,,	85,836
American ,,	83,728
Spanish ,,	136,500

The Parsees, travelling with the ships which brought their ventures, would naturally find it most convenient to carry back their surplus receipts in silver; the Spanish adopted this mode of remitting to Calcutta the silver which they brought from Manila; and, in the absence of more precise information, we can only accept the above as indicating the relative proportions of the English and the American interest in the agency for the sale of Indian cotton and opium. It was on the proceeds from these two commodities that the Committee relied mainly to sell their bills, but, generally speaking, opium alone is referred to as the source of supply. Thus in a consultation during the summer of

1829 on the prospective embargo, considering the place in which the Indiamen might anchor, the Committee note—

With a view to obviate any reasonable objections of the Government, we shall give specific orders to the Commanders to avoid all communication with the ships of the Opium Squadron, which are usually anchored on the North Western end of Lintin, or in Macao Roads, and shall desire that the two fleets be kept as distinct as possible.

Early in November, when the embargo was in force, Messrs. Magniac & Co. and Messrs. T. Dent & Co. applied to be allowed to pay cash on board one of the Company's ships at Tongku for bills on Bengal to be issued at Macao, where the Committee then were. The application was refused on the ground that

we shall have no difficulty in raising the necessary funds whenever we recommence our Commercial Transactions, while the amount of the Monthly Sales of Opium exceeds one Million of Dollars.

It may be observed that of the British country ships, 47 in all, the consignees of 28 are given, as under :

Messrs	Magniac & Co.	10
,,	T. Dent & Co.	7
,,	Robertson, Cullen & Co. . . .	1
,,	Ilbery, Fearon & Co. . . .	1
Mr.	J. Innes	1
,,	R. Turner	1
,,	T. Allport	1
,,	A. Pereira	1
Various	Parsees	5

One of these vessels was the barque *Jamesina*, 393 tons, owned by and consigned to Messrs. Magniac & Co., and generally known to be engaged solely in the opium trade. Her commander applied to the Governor in Council at Bombay to be exempted from the necessity of giving a bond required of vessels bound for China, on the ground that

the nature of the voyage on which I am bound, precludes me from conforming to several of the provisions of the said Bond, as the *Jamesina* will not enter the port of Canton, nor can the Hon'ble Company's Supra Cargoes take any cognizance of me or my ship being expressly prohibited by the orders of the Hon'ble Court of Directors from acknowledging in any way the existence of the Opium Trade.

For another ship, the *Hannah*, the penalty named in the bond for any infraction of its provisions or disorder by the ship's crew

was 800 rupees, less than £100, a penalty which the Committee characterized in writing to the Governor in Council at Bombay as ' very insufficient for the purpose specified '.

Captain Thomas Baker, formerly commanding a country ship trading to China, was arrested by the Portuguese at Macao on August 14th for an assault committed on Captain Loureiro, a Portuguese officer serving the Government of Macao, who had for some months repeatedly annoyed Captain Baker's wife. Brought before the Governor on that same day, Captain Baker admitted his offence, but pleaded provocation; he was then confined in Forte Monte, and detained there without trial. Thence on the 21st he wrote claiming the protection of Mr. Plowden, ' as Chief of the British Factory and of the general affairs of the British nation, and as an Englishman '. The Committee sent a copy of his letter unofficially to Colonel João Cabral de Estifique, the Governor, who replied that the matter was now in the hands of the judge of the Ouvidoria of Macao, but that he, the Governor, would do his utmost to further Mr. Plowden's wishes. Three weeks after his arrest Captain Baker wrote, on September 6th, that he was still in prison, untried, but that the complainant, Captain Loureiro, had expressed his willingness that he should be released on condition of his apologizing and signing a bond, with a satisfactory security, to pay 5,000 dollars to the Holy House of the Misericordia if he should again offend against Captain Loureiro. Mr. Plowden thereupon wrote to the Governor, pointing out that such a long detention was arbitrary and was in itself a sufficient punishment; at which the Governor saw fit to take offence, and, incidentally, to declare that he did not recognize in Mr. Plowden any official or representative capacity. The Committee were conscious of many occasions on which the President had in his official and representative capacity been called upon to devote his energies to the furtherance of the wishes of the Government of Macao; and on September 12th they sent an official letter to the Governor and Senate conjointly, pointing out that Captain Baker had already suffered an imprisonment of four weeks, requesting that he be brought at once before the Court for trial, and insisting on the official and representative capacity of the President and Committee of the Hon'ble East India Company. The Senate replied on the 17th by a letter

addressed to 'Mr. W. H. C. Plowden, W. Baynes, C. Millett, and J. Bannerman' (i. e. to the members as individuals and not as a Committee), and signed by 'Miguel Pereira Simoens, Acting Clerk of the Town Hall and Court of Exchequer', in which, after upholding the course pursued against Captain Baker, they declared that

> the same Loyal Senate regrets that they cannot acknowledge the Public Character which you wish to arrogate and think it expedient to abstain from sending such an answer as the improper terms of your letter deserve.

The Committee then drew up a formal protest against the action of the Governor and Senate, and transmitted it to the Secretary in a letter, dated September 19th, signed 'John Jackson, Secretary to the Select Committee'. This was answered on the 23rd by a long exposition, signed by Mr. Simoens, that Captain Baker had been continuously on trial since his arrest, and was still in confinement only because he had not conformed to the requirements of the injured party. To this Mr. Jackson replied on September 25th, that the Committee would report to the Governor-General that Captain Baker was still, forty-two days after arrest, confined in the fort and denied an open trial, whereas on a previous occasion, when Captain Loureiro had assaulted Captain Baker, the assailant had been left at liberty for twelve days, and had then been detained for twenty-four hours only; and that the correspondence in the case would be sent to His Lordship. On October 8th, being 55 days after the arrest, it is recorded:

> We understand that Captain Baker has been this day liberated on entering into recognizances upon his own security to the amount of 5,000 dollars to keep the peace towards Capt. Loureiro.

The Governor-General in Council at Fort William, addressing on December 15th the Governor and Captain-General of Portuguese India, declared that

> in this declaration [of the Governor of Macao] we apprehend there must be some mistake, for the Select Committee represent the authority of the British East India Company at Macao and must be regarded as the delegates of the British Nation at that place, so long as the relations of Great Britain with China continue on their present footing.

The Governor of Macao had clearly misjudged the situation if he

thought that he could assume an air of superiority over a body of English merchants which contained representatives of the families which had conquered and were administering India, and at the head of which Mr. Plowden's predecessors had included the heirs to the Indian baronetcies of the Metcalfe and Fraser families.

It had been the wish of the Committee to enclose with a wall the square in front (on the river side) of the Company's factory at Canton, partly to prevent the open space from being made the general passage and common resort of all conditions of Chinese, but also to close it against attempts at smuggling through the Company's premises. On March 11, 1829, the Viceroy sent the Kwangchow Fu and the Namhoi Hien to examine the question on the spot, and on April 7th he issued a mandate prohibiting the enclosure; but at the same time the Namhoi Hien issued a proclamation forbidding all persons, except those having business at the factory, to cross the ground. Such prohibitions were, of course, futile; but, as the factory went then to Macao, the Committee were able to do little beyond asking the Hong Merchants to do what they could. The matter had been discussed through 1828, and on February 27, 1830, after the return of the factory on the resumption of the interrupted trade, the Viceroy issued a mandate ordering that further agitation should cease. The Committee were not in a mood to submit tamely, and they

> determined to remove the inconvenience by ordering a detachment of Boats and Seamen from our Ships by whom the cavity remaining will be filled up from a heap of rubbish in the neighbourhood, and a fence erected to prevent intrusion.

The work was taken in hand promptly and was carried out thoroughly. On March 4th the Hong Merchants tried to persuade the Committee to suspend operations in order to save the face of the authorities, but they refused, and on March 5th

> the ground having been now levelled and a fence erected by the carpenters on the East side, we have no further occasion for the services of the Party from the Ships, who will return in the afternoon to Whampoa and Second Bar. We think it proper to notice here an instance of the shameful negligence of the Government Police with respect to the ground in the front of the other Foreign Factories and which serves to demonstrate the condition to which Europeans are reduced in this Country, where the remedy of evils is left to the discretion of Govern-

ment. To fill up the cavity which existed in the Premises of the Company's Factory, we had recourse to a heap of rubbish which had been gradually collected at a distance of not more than 50 yards from the small Factory of the Company. This accumulation of filth has become the asylum of Lepers and the most wretched Beggars, with whom this City abounds, and presents altogether a most loathsome scene. In removing the rubbish for the purpose above mentioned 3 or 4 corpses were found with a covering of not more than 3 or 4 feet of loose material upon them. This spot during the South West Monsoon is directly to windward of the Factories and about 50 yards distant. The disgusting nuisances which exist there are considered by medical Persons liable to breed a pestilence.

THE IMPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1829. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Woollens	2,276,544	80,616	2,357,160	707,246	96,000	..
Metals	198,040	38,101	236,141	581,535 [4]	..	..
Furs	..	7,660	7,660	191,006	1,550	..
Other Western Products	243,800 [1]	74,285 [2]	318,085	419,050 [5]	5,500	..
Western Products	2,718,384	200,662	2,919,046	1,898,837	103,050	4,920,933
Cotton	1,744,340	3,335,760	5,080,100	..	..	..
Opium	..	13,450,924 [3]	13,450,924	502,900	125,870	..
Sandalwood	21,375	248,955	270,330	43,228	16,800	..
Tin, Banka	..	110,149	110,149	910	43,900	..
Pepper	..	169,477	169,477	..	21,760	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	896,220	896,220	348,113	59,026	..
Eastern Produce	1,765,715	18,211,485	19,977,200	895,151	267,356	21,139,707
Total Goods	4,484,099	18,412,147	22,896,246	2,793,988	370,406	26,060,640
Silver	..	35,000	35,000	1,123,644 [6]	..	1,158,644
Total Imports	4,484,099	18,447,147	22,931,246	3,917,632	370,406 [7]	27,219,284

[1] British calicoes, 22,750 pieces, 165,050 dollars; cotton twist (yarn), 2,250 piculs, 78,750 dollars.
[2] Cotton manufactures, 55,329 dollars; clocks and toys, 18,956 dollars.
[3] Including all Indian opium by all flags at both Lintin and Macao.
[4] Including quicksilver, 5,643 piculs, 395,010 dollars.
[5] Including cotton piece goods, 85,395 pieces, 405,980 dollars; cotton yarn, 211 piculs, 8,440 dollars.
[6] And in addition 393,650 dollars in bills.
[7] Imports by four ships under Netherlands flag.

THE EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1829. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Ships: Number	25	47	72	40	17	129
Tonnage	30,127	23,573	53,700	16,000	10,000	79,700
Exports:						
Tea	7,530,476	706,092	8,236,568	2,496,683	315,832	..
Raw Silk	..	1,879,880	1,879,880	138,700	39,000	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	439,675	439,675	991,135 [2]	3,900	..
Nankeens	1,050	492,415	493,465	250,173	..	..
Tutenague	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Commodities	..	2,746,719 [1]	2,746,719	222,898 [3]	33,555	..
Total Goods	7,531,526	6,264,781	13,796,307	4,099,589	392,287	18,288,183
Silver	90,000	6,656,372	6,746,372	9,000	..	6,755,372
	7,621,526	12,921,153	20,542,679	4,108,589	392,287	25,043,555
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	129,121					
Factory Expenses	176,872	233,000	793,993	103,000	13,000	..
Ship Expenses	255,000					
	560,993	233,000	793,993	103,000	13,000	909,993
Cost of Investment	8,182,519	13,154,153	21,336,672	4,211,589	405,287 [4]	25,953,548

[1] Including sugar, 172,195 piculs, 1,439,737 dollars; American copper, 80,896 dollars.
[2] Including sewing silk, 96,900 dollars.
[3] Including sugar, 4,925 piculs, 44,325 dollars.
[4] Exports by four ships under Netherlands flag.

DISTRIBUTION OF EXPORTS FROM CANTON BY AMERICAN SHIPS, SEASON 1829

			Dollars.	Dollars.
To the UNITED STATES:				
Tea	Piculs	61,634	2,284,110	
Raw Silk	,,	230	97,750	
Sewing Silk	,,	158	67,150	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	169,642	792,892	
Nankeens	,,	305,568	215,148	
Sugar	Piculs	2,623	23,607	
Matting	Rolls	2,314	11,570	
Cassia	Piculs	2,883	37,479	
Sundries	Value	..	90,994	
				3,620,700
To EUROPE:				
Tea	Piculs	2,520	135,433	
Cassia	,,	119	1,785	
Sundries	Value	..	2,656	
				139,874
To BRAZIL:				
Tea	Piculs	2,037	76,554	
Nankeens	Pieces	5,000	3,500	
Cassia	Piculs	113	1,469	
Sundries	Value	..	880	
				82,403
To SOUTH AMERICA, SANDWICH ISLANDS, and CALIFORNIA:				
Tea	Piculs	13	586	
Raw Silk	,,	117	40,950	
Sewing Silk	,,	70	29,750	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	14,011	101,343	
Nankeens	,,	39,400	31,525	
Sugar	Piculs	2,302	20,718	
Matting	Rolls	801	4,005	
Sundries	Value	..	27,735	
				256,612
Total export of goods				4,099,589

STATEMENT OF THE OPIUM TRADE, SEASON 1829

	Bengal. Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	*Total.* Chests.
In hand, April 1, 1829	598	704	..	1,302
Imported	7,671	7,972	700	16,343
	8,269	8,676	700	17,645
Lost in wreck, August 9th	..	233	..	233
	8,269	8,443	700	17,412
Deliveries: at Lintin	7,006	6,542	700	14,248
at Macao	137	315	..	452
Total	7,143	6,857	700	14,700
In hand, March 31, 1830	1,126	1,586	..	2,712
Value of deliveries in dollars:	6,149,577	5,907,580	504,000	12,561,157
Market prices in dollars:				
Highest	930	1,030	720	
Lowest	800	740		

THE COURT'S ESTIMATE OF THE INVESTMENT, SEASON 1829

		£	£
Bengal Investment: to England: Piece Goods		72,618	
Raw Silk		928,000	
Saltpetre		17,400	
Sugar		167,040	
Indigo		464,000	
		1,649,058	
to China: Cotton		261,000	
			1,910,058
Madras Investment: to England: Piece Goods		114,285	
to China: Cotton		131,657	
			245,942
Bombay Investment: to China: Cotton		..	195,868
India and China to Cape of Good Hope		..	10,000
China Investment: to England: Tea		1,833,333	
to Halifax: Tea		84,000	
			1,917,333
			4,279,201

THE COURT'S ESTIMATE OF COMMERCIAL FUNDS TO PROVIDE THE INVESTMENTS, SEASON 1829

	£	£
Political Charges in England from May, 1828, to April, 1829, including Pay Office demands		1,798,487
Cost and Charges of Military and Public Stores	355,922	
Marine Store	22,220	
Stationery	35,000	
		413,142
		2,211,629
Sales of Europe Goods: in three Presidencies	58,000	
in China	669,248	
		727,248
Produce in China of Company's Cotton, Season 1829:		
Bombay Cotton 40,950 piculs	150,150	
Bengal ,, 50,625 ,,	168,750	
Madras ,, 21,600 ,,	72,000	
		390,900
Amount to be paid into Canton Treasury by Commanders: for Bombay Cotton, 5 Ships	78,157	
,, Bengal ,, 6 ,,	77,913	
,, Madras ,, 3 ,,	51,237	
		207,307
From Commanders for Certificates		100,000
		3,637,084
Deficiency of Commercial Funds in 1829–30		642,117
		4,279,201

LXXXVII

DISPUTE BETWEEN THE COMMITTEE AND THE AUTHORITIES, 1829

The season 1829 to the end of January, 1830, was marked by a dispute between the Select Committee of the East India Company, who imposed an embargo on all British trade at Canton in order to obtain redress of grievances, and the Chinese authorities, who considered that the foreign trade of the port was now well regulated and who desired to make no change. The first cause of battle was the reduced number of the Hong Merchants, who, after having been eleven for a number of years, were reduced to seven by the bankruptcy of four of the firms; and it was a matter of common knowledge that an important contributing cause of these bankruptcies had been the steady drain of official extortion. There was now impending still another bankruptcy, which would reduce the number to six. Mr. Millett had gone to Canton to see to the safety of the winter teas, and on June 25th the Committee at Macao met to consider a letter from him:

> Reports to the prejudice of Chunqua's Hong which were prevalent at Macao before my departure induced me to institute a very strict examination into all the circumstances of that Merchant, and I am sorry to add that they have now assumed so grave an aspect as to make questionable the ability of that Firm to continue its Commercial Transactions. The Company is not directly interested but the question is of great moment as regards the stability of the remaining Hongs, in the event of another failure, and if some entire change does not soon occur lead us to contemplate the probability of the utter annihilation of that system under which the British Trade in China has so long been conducted.

When the elder Chunqua retired in the season 1827,[1] he sold a share in his firm to Inqua, and surrendered to the new firm (consisting of his son and Inqua) property declared to be worth Tls. 300,000. A year later Inqua found that he had acquired an

[1] Cf. *antea*, p. 150.

interest in an accumulation of debt, while the property was overvalued; and he secured his release from the partnership, but continued to act as managing clerk. The firm was involved and was led to satisfying the demands of the tea merchants

by giving up the Title Deeds of almost all the Houses and Warehouses possessed by the Firm. By this course and by borrowing from several foreign residents, a Settlement had for the present been effected, but further debts are to be paid by Instalments in July, August and September.

The duties payable to the Government were only Tls. 24,000, but larger amounts were due to be paid next year, owing to a large purchase of camlets from the Netherlands Company and another of broadcloth from a Spanish house. The only remedy which the firm could see was to

bring to their aid the former manager of its concerns, the elder Chunqua, who alone has Talent necessary to the undertaking and the means of using that Talent with effect.

Mr. Millett was induced to write a note to support the plea of the firm that the elder Chunqua should return to Canton to meet the situation created by the presentation of a petition against the firm by the Spanish Ybar. The Committee saw now the prospect that the eleven hongs might be reduced to six, and this at a time when the authorities were trying to restrain the activities of the outside merchants. The Committee received a memorial dated Bombay, May 15th, and signed by forty-four Parsee merchants of Bombay, complaining that the exclusion of the outside merchants restricted them to the Hong Merchants for the disposal of their cotton and other goods; that of the latter some had failed and others of the greatest importance had dealings only with the great Companies, thus reducing to two or three the hongs which could buy their cotton; that these two or three were quite unequal to coping with the volume of the trade, and were moreover in a position to combine and lower prices unfairly; that when one firm fails the other members of the Co-Hong are compelled to assume the debt, paying by instalments in four or five or six years, but without interest; that to reimburse themselves the Hong Merchants levied a tax known as Hong-yung Duty on the trade, so heavy in amount as to yield a million dollars in one year; and yet that this duty was not abolished

even when the debts were paid ; and they appealed to the Select Committee to memorialize the Chinese authorities to increase the number of Hong Merchants, and to sanction trading with the outside merchants. A similar memorial was addressed by the Parsee merchants to the Governor in Council, and a copy, sent to the Committee in China, was taken into consideration. Some of the allegations of the memorialists were admitted as being probably true, and with the petition that the numbers of the Hong Merchants might be brought up to their former level the Committee were in full accord ; but exception was taken to the assertion that the Hong-yung duty was levied and was continued, the Hong Merchants having always denied its existence. This consultation was signed by three members of the Committee, but Mr. Bannerman wrote a minute dissenting from this opinion and declaring that it was notorious that the Hong-yung duty existed, and he considered that the Parsee memorial should be supported. Mr. Plowden and Mr. Millett then peremptorily called upon Mr. Bannerman to prove his assertions ; whereupon Mr. Baynes rallied to the support of Mr. Bannerman, leaving the President with a majority obtained only by his own casting vote.

The problem pressed for a decision, and at the end of July a decision was made in anticipation of the arrival of the Company's ships. There would be 50,000 bales of cotton to dispose of, besides the English woollens ; to two of the Hong Merchants the Committee had never sold cotton ; and there was always a danger that the remaining four might form a close combination against the Company. The Committee had a weapon in their hands in the authorization given by the Court of Directors to keep the ships outside the river until the back of the summer was broken and the danger of malaria and dysentery was reduced ; they could, then, leave the ships outside, give no official reason, let it be understood that it was a question of the health of the crews, and, when the authorities expressed their uneasiness at the delay in bringing the ships up to Whampoa, then the Committee could spring their earnest desire that the numbers of the Hong Merchants should be brought up to the old standard without further delay. For there had been much delay from the unwillingness of merchants to come forward : the Hoppo was said to have

reduced his fee from 70,000 to 10,000 taels, the Viceroy had been authorized to waive the requirement that all the old Hong Merchants should jointly secure the new, the old Hongists all professed their eagerness to obtain new colleagues—and yet none came forward. It was accordingly decided to keep the ships outside, ostensibly on the ground of the health of the crews, but the Committee might hesitate to take this decision, were it not that

it has now become not only highly proper, but absolutely necessary to attract the attention of the higher Officers of Government to the state of the Foreign Trade and the many grievances under which it at present labors, with the hope that some material improvement may result from such examination. An Extract from a Pekin Gazette shews that the Viceroy has already represented to the Imperial Government the difficulty which is experienced by the Hong Merchants in meeting the heavy and arbitrary demands made on them, beyond the usual duties. It also shews that the Emperor has granted such an extension of the term of payment as supposes the permanent existence of this Trade [? custom, or imposition] and at the same time concedes that it is assessed too highly in meeting the demand of the Treasury. We may therefore reasonably look forward to our representations meeting with attention.

Up to this point the Committee were unanimous in their proposed action and the reasons for it, but in the procedure to be followed the President was in a minority of one against his colleagues—even his casting vote gave him only two votes to their three. Mr. Plowden agreed that the ships should be kept outside, expressly on the ground of the health of the crews, and he also agreed that, in the state of the market, the delay would not seriously affect the sale of their cargoes, but beyond this he dissented.

The President concurred further in opinion with the Committee as to the necessity of calling the attention of the Officers of Government to the disabilities under which the Trade at present labors, but he objected to the mode by which the Committee purpose to carry this object into execution.

At the consultation on July 25th he laid before his colleagues the draft of a memorial to the Viceroy, and

submitted to them the propriety of making him acquainted with their sentiments and fears as to the instability of the credit of the Hong Merchants, and to draw his attention strongly to the subject with the

hope that he would immediately resort to such steps as are within his power, to remedy the embarrassments by which the Foreign Trade at this Port is affected.

The draft outlined the real grievances of the foreigners—the insecurity of credit at Canton, the difficulty of selling imports, the necessity of increasing the number of Hong Merchants, with whom alone it was permitted to deal, and the numerous failures which were the result of the present system. The majority of the Committee proposed to keep the ships outside without assigning any reason; to this Mr. Plowden objected 'on the twofold grounds of Policy, and Courtesy to the Viceroy'; but he was outvoted, and a form of letter was drawn up directing the commander of each of the Company's ships to

proceed with the ship under your command to the anchorage taken up by the H.C. Ships in the season 1823–4 to the Eastward of Lintin, between the Island of Toon Koo and Castle Peak, or at your discretion to any part of the Cap-sing-moon Passage.

The first ships arrived on August 8th. One of them, the *Bridgewater* from Calcutta, on her way to 'the anchorage between the Island of Toon Koo and Castle Peak', anchored for the night with the Peak of Lintin NNW. and Tongku NNE. During the night she was struck by a typhoon with the wind fresh from NE., afterwards veering to E. and increasing in force; topmasts and yards were lowered, the small bower was let go, and then in succession the sheet anchor and the best bower, but still the ship dragged; finally the masts were cut away, and 'brought up about 2 p.m. near high water ½ 3 Fathoms'—in other words, ashore on the tail of Lintin. When she was got off it was imperative that she should go to Whampoa for repairs and refitting, and the Committee reluctantly gave permission, but forbade any of her import cargo being touched.

On August 28th a reply was received from the elder Chunqua, regretting his inability to come at once to the rescue of his old firm; and this seemed to indicate the probable bankruptcy of the firm, with additional burdens imposed on the remaining six and the possibility of one or more of the weakest being also dragged down. A consultation was then held at which the President proposed that, the ships having been detained outside for about three weeks, the Viceroy should now be addressed in a firm but

temperate way as the most politic and proper mode to obtain any objects the Committee might have in view.

I am apprehensive a longer perseverance in keeping the ships outside without addressing the Government may soon assume a minatory appearance and give rise to unfriendly feelings on the part of the Government, and in other ways may be prejudicial to the Company's Interests . . . and I further propose that the Company's Ships should now be ordered to proceed to Whampoa.

Mr. Plowden's three colleagues considered that nothing had occurred to modify the decision taken a month earlier to keep the ships outside; but they agreed that it would be well to address the Viceroy, limiting their representations, however, to the two most pressing points,

viz^{t} the actual condition of Chunqua's Hong, and the necessity of increasing the number of respectable Merchants, but which will serve as a preliminary step to the introduction of other topics to the notice of the Government which they considered the present a favorable opportunity to discuss.

A memorial to the Viceroy was accordingly drawn up, limited strictly to those two subjects, and was sent on September 1st. A week later, on September 8th, the Viceroy having given an opening by asking a question, a further representation was drawn up, referring to other grievances. As an illustration of the exactions made on the foreign trade, the ' present ' of 1,950 taels demanded of every ship entering the port was especially mentioned; and a fourth grievance requiring remedy was the prohibition of dealings with the outside merchants.

The Hoppo had died on August 8th, and the Viceroy in his answer sheltered himself behind a shield of ignorance, pleading ' old custom ' for the present, and the necessity of further inquiry for the other points. There was no real indication that the authorities would make any change, but the Committee buoyed themselves with hopes—

The Viceroy must perceive that the object of our demands is connected with the very existence of the Trade, and that where it is impossible for us to recede in our demands for what appears essential to its continuance, some concession must be made on his part.

The Committee accordingly again wrote, September 23rd, to the Viceroy urging that if the elder Chunqua did not return with his money, his firm must fail, as also those of Kinqua and Fatqua,

thus reducing to four the number of solvent merchants with whom foreigners might lawfully trade; and pointing out that small ships could not pay the same amount for present, Tls. 1,950, as large ships. Mr. Millett, who had again gone to Canton, returned to Macao, and reported on October 2nd that

> the Merchants appear generally to be fully alive to the importance of the present proceedings. So far from shewing any anxiety for reopening our commercial intercourse by proposing palliatives and measures of only temporary avail, they seem willing to aid us to the utmost of their power in representing the whole of the difficulties and restraints under which the Trade labors; and while they entertain hopes of its melioration by our means, seem fully impressed with the belief that nothing but some vital change of system can save the remaining Hongs from the ruin which has already overwhelmed so many of their body. The detention of our ships outside the river induced no inquiry from them regarding its cause or probable duration.

Under date of September 26th the memorial of the forty-four Parsee merchants of Bombay was supplemented by a memorial from seven English firms represented at Canton, viz.:

Thos. Dent & Co.
R. Turner
Magniac & Co.
Rawson & Co.
Ilberry, Fearon & Co.
Wm. White
Robertson, Cullen & Co.

Avoiding the exaggerations and correcting some of the misstatements of the Parsee memorial, they emphasized and amplified the four points made by the Committee, viz.:

the necessity of the elder Chunqua's return;
the need for the creation of more Hong Merchants;
the abolition or mitigation of the present of Tls. 1,950;
the extension of the privilege of trading with outside merchants.

Their purpose was explained in an introductory paragraph—

> Your good offices are solicited to obtain relief from various heavy grievances, to which our Commercial Intercourse with this Empire has become gradually liable, to such a degree as now, if not removed, to threaten its annihilation, and as a representation of these grievances to the Government, can be made by you only, with that weight, which the subject demands, and duly explained in the Chinese Language, in

which the Government does not permit us to address them, we shall abstain for the present, from making any official application to the ruling Authorities of the Province, in the hope that this will be more effectually done by you.

Thus fortified by the support of a body of British merchants who were year by year acquiring greater experience and power, the Committee drew up a list of eight propositions, which, on October 5th, was sent to the merchants for transmission to the Viceroy.

1st. The Tungsheng Hong (Chunqua) must not be allowed to fail; but Lew Chingshoo (the elder Chunqua) must return bringing money with him.

2nd. The new merchants for foreign trade, whether twenty or fifty houses, were not to be liable for the debts of others; this would restrict their credit since they could not be called upon to make good the deficiency of bankrupts' estates.

3rd. The old Hong Merchants would in future not be liable for the debts of others; they must at once liquidate their debts, or declare the amounts of those outstanding.

4th. The liquidation of bankrupt estates now proceeding should be continued, the money being collected from new and old Hong Merchants alike, and the instalments are to be paid as now arranged; when the present debts are paid off, no further sums shall be collected for the purpose.

5th. The import duties were to be assessed daily and paid within five days; the same with the export duties.

6th. Foreign merchants were to be free to hire warehouses and keep them under their own management; there need be no Security Merchant for the foreigners; and the foreigners must pay the duties in cash without the intervention of a Hong Merchant or a Linguist.

7th. None of the Hongs for Foreign Trade should be required to act as Security for foreign ships, the reason ceasing to exist when duties are paid in cash; and 'since the Security Merchants really cannot control the actions of Foreigners, the Law requiring Security Merchants, only assists the Hoppo's Office to make pretexts and extort money, so that both Natives and Foreigners are vexatiously hindered and distressed by minute interference.' Further the commanders of ships should be free to select their own compradors and to buy their supplies for ready money.

8th. 'For the entrance of Foreign Ships into the Port, the charges at present exacted by all sorts of Offices must be diminished, after which those remaining to be paid should be in proportion to the size of the Ship.' In the future the port might expect an influx of small ships, to which the present system was unfair.

These proposals were calculated to upset the entire system under which the officials of Canton had battened on the foreign trade, and which had been developed during a century of exploitation; and the Committee expected that the Viceroy would be so charmed by their representations that he would order their adoption forthwith, in ample time to allow the ships, after a belated entrance, to get away before the south-west monsoon should get established. In this expectation they were encouraged by the Viceroy's prompt reply, October 14th, in which, instead of a possibly anticipated rejection, he said that some of the proposals merited full consideration, and that he had instructed the provincial Treasurer and the Judge to deliberate and report.

The Committee were now fully launched on a policy of enforcing their demands by an embargo, and on October 19th,

> being informed that the resort to Canton of the Officers and other persons attached to the H.C. Ships is productive of many unfounded reports amongst the Chinese, which impede and protract the termination of the present discussions,

they issued orders that no visits to Canton were to be made. At the same time they ordered the *Bridgewater* out of the river to join the other ships at Tangku, an order which, after some delay, was at length obeyed.

It was at this juncture that reports came to the ears of the Committee, prejudicial to the credit of Mowqua, the second of the Hong Merchants, and throwing grave doubts on the solvency of the hong. Should these reports be confirmed, it would reduce to three the number of Hong Merchants of unquestioned solvency and strength.

Before the end of October petitions were sent to the Viceroy by the English private traders at Canton, the Parsee merchants, the Netherlands Consul, and the Chief of the Spanish factory, all reinforcing and expanding the arguments of the Committee; to these the Viceroy replied in an acrimonious tone, as apparently he did not see why they should intervene in a private dispute between him and the English Company. The commanders of the Company's ships, seventeen in number, also proposed to present a petition in their capacity as private traders; but the Committee informed them that their support was not required. Notwithstanding his vexation, the Viceroy found that something

must be done. To fill the vacancy, the new Hoppo was expected to arrive about the middle of November, and the Viceroy had hoped to postpone any decisive action until his arrival; but this he now found impossible. He accordingly issued a mandate to the merchants, expressing his surprise that they had not produced others to act as their colleagues, and offering to remit all fees payable in the interval before the arrival of the new Hoppo. The four senior merchants brought this mandate to Macao on November 1st and produced it to the Committee.

This proclamation altho' it shews a willingness to further our views by the appointment of New Merchants is after all only a temporary measure and would leave the new Candidates for the situation at the mercy of the Officer expected to fill the appointment of Hoppo, with whose Department the Viceroy declares himself determined in no way to interfere, whenever he arrives in Canton and takes charge. It bears all the appearance of an Expedient to delude some inexperienced Native into embarking his Property in a Trade, which is universally shunned. It never can be expected while the obnoxious Regulations exist which make a Hong Merchant a slave for life to the Govt. and render him liable for debts incurred by others, and responsible for the conduct of men over whom he has no control, that any Person of Common Sense will expose himself to ignominy, and his Family and Property to Ruin, for the sake of at best a very precarious hope of advantage. . . . They Proceeded to propose the removal of the Factory to Canton and of the Ships to Whampoa.

This proposal, emanating only from the merchants, was rejected by the Committee in the most peremptory manner.

The long-awaited reply of the Viceroy was delivered to the Committee on November 16th. Taking up one by one the demands of the Committee contained in their memorial of October 5th, he contended—

1st. That the elder Chunqua had been ordered to return to Canton.

2nd. The remaining Hong Merchants had been ordered to find others, who would be accepted with only one or two old merchants as security; and, in case of their bankruptcy, only the one or two who had acted as security would be liable to make good the debts.

3rd. The debts of the old Hong Merchants may continue to run on current account; but any new debt incurred by them must be declared at the end of each year, no claim being allowed for any debt not so declared.

4th. The proposal that new Hong Merchants should not contribute to the Consoo Fund is rejected; the existing rule must be adhered to.

5th. The proposal to pay cash for import duties was acceptable ; the period for payment was extended to twenty days.

6th. The proposal that foreigners might rent their own warehouses, need no longer find security merchants, and might pay their duties without the intervention of a Hong Merchant, was rejected.

7th. The proposal that ships need not find a security merchant nor have a comprador imposed on them, it was inexpedient to grant, as both practices had been followed for many years ; but the Hoppo's officers at Canton and the Tsotang's at Macao would be ordered not to be extortionate.

8th. The measurage dues and enter-port fees had been in force for over a hundred years, the first proportioned to the size of the ship, the second the same for all sizes ; the proceeds were regularly transmitted to Peking and any change must be sanctioned by the Emperor, but his permission would be asked to have the Board of Revenue report on the possibility of reduction.

This mandate was based on a report from the Treasurer and the Judge of the province, which was embodied, and in their rejoinder, which was drawn up at once, the Committee expressed their surprise that

> Officers who from their rank should be supposed to be endowed with talent and judgement, should imagine that we are so ignorant or so blind as to be deceived by their glossing pretexts and false arrangements, or that we are to be cajoled and turned from our purpose by the paltry expedients, which their ignorance only of our feelings and resolutions would induce them to venture upon proposing as a plan to satisfy us, or to recover to Your Excellency's Government the valuable Trade you have apparently lost.

The Committee then proceeded to meet, one by one, the specious arguments adduced against their proposals. They pointed out that Hong Merchants were not allowed to retire until they had been sucked dry and driven into bankruptcy, and that, as a consequence of this stagnation, the number of entirely solvent firms was now reduced to three—Howqua, Puankhequa, and Goqua ; that new merchants were deterred from coming forward partly because of this, and partly because of the extortion practised and the heavy fees exacted by the Hoppo and his officers ; that the security of ' one or two merchants ' instead of all, perpetuated the old faulty system ; that payment of foreign debts from the Consoo fund was really a tax on British trade, since that alone was large in amount ; that they did not

require the twenty days in which to pay duties, if only they might pay them direct, and not through the Hong Merchants; that they could have no real control over their own goods unless they were in their own warehouses; that there was no reason why Security Merchants should be appointed for themselves or their ships; and that the long period during which the enter-port fee had been paid was of no consequence, but that the amount was too great. At the same time, in order to demonstrate to the Viceroy that trade outside the port was possible, the Committee authorized the commanders and officers to sell their private trade and deliver it from the anchorages where the ships might be moored.

All these claims, memorials, and acts were ordered and authorized by majority vote in the Committee, Mr. Plowden on each occasion protesting, and then yielding in order to present an unbroken front to the Chinese. On the reply to the Viceroy's mandate of November 16th he recorded a dissenting minute:

He concurs with the Committee in the propriety of replying to this document and of remonstrating in respectful terms against the partial tendency of the regulations it confirms, he thinks it would be just and proper however to give the Viceroy credit for the disposition he has evinced to grant some of the points referred to him, namely his having ordered the elder Chunqua down to Canton, his having promised to refer a reduction of the Enter Port Fee to Pekin, his having actually ordained a diminution of nearly one half in the Compradors fees, his having invited men to become Hong Merchants abolishing the fees and exactions which are stated as preventive causes to the attainment of this object, his having conceded the payment of the Import duties as requested. . . . The leading points which in the President's estimation it is desirable to effect are a diminution in the Enter Port Fee and the appointment of more Hong Merchants, and as it appears difficult to obtain the latter by any means the Chinese Government can devise and moreover as they are decidedly averse to sanction more freedom in our Commercial Intercourse, the President is of opinion that the Committee might propose an extension of the system [1] granted in May, 1828, to the outside Trade, that is permission to sell the staple articles of Company's Import and to purchase Cargo in return from outside dealers as is the case now with the Americans and others in the minor articles of Commerce. . . . The system of security which prevails throughout the whole of the Regulations confirmed by the Viceroy is one so interwoven with Chinese Policy towards foreigners and one also

[1] Cf. *antea*, p. 172.

which the Government is so tenacious of maintaining that the President is of opinion it cannot be altogether set aside. . . . The two primary and most essential Points now to be pressed upon Government are the appointment of more Hong Merchants and if possible a diminution in the Measurement and Enter Port Fee. . . . The other points that have been urged he considers collateral and probably of some utility but it becomes a question with the President how far it is politic to place them in competition with the two main objects. . . . The President is quite alive to the value and importance which the Chinese must attach to the Company's Trade but he is equally sensible of the stake which the Company have at issue. . . . The Committee are now employing the greatest engine in their power to place the British Trade on a firmer and more secure footing, but as the failure of Hong Merchants was the ostensible and indeed vital point at issue when these discussions commenced, the President conceives that the less the Committee dictate minor objects and place them in competition with the two great points he is now advocating, the more probability will there be of obtaining the solid advantages required.

The majority of the Committee had taken advantage of one grievance which, as even the Chinese authorities must admit, required prompt redress—to press for the redress of other grievances which constituted the very foundation of the Chinese system; they had no force at their back and could rely only on the power of passive resistance; and they required a prompt decision on a demand which upset the practice of a century, when every instinct of the Chinese would lead them to procrastinate. If they had understood the Chinese character they must have known that their quest was hopeless, and when it aimed at ending a procedure which was profitable to the authorities, it was doubly hopeless. Shut up in the factory and denied free access to the Chinese, it was perhaps excusable that they did not see the hopelessness of such a struggle as that on which they had embarked; but, with only a few years' seniority, Mr. Plowden had the sagacity to see that

the Viceroy's edict is so indicative of a determination to disallow Trade to be conducted otherwise than by some mode of Security which is the leading feature of Chinese Policy towards foreigners that he considers any adjustment of the present discussion must be founded on that Basis.

He considered the tone of the drafted reply too peremptory, and was prepared to support the Committee only by negotiations founded on the 'Principles of Moderation and Justice'; but he

must protest strongly against the decision to allow the Company's commanders to deliver their private trade outside the port,

considering it as compromising the unsullied character which the Hon'ble Company's Ships have hitherto maintained with the Chinese Government as respects smuggling.

In their several minutes in reply the only new point made by Mr. Baynes, Mr. Millett, and Mr. Bannerman was that this was the first recorded minute of protest by the President since the decision taken on July 25th to keep the ships outside the river. To this Mr. Plowden replied that on July 25th he had assented to the proposal in support of the single demand that the Hong Merchants be restored in number; that on August 28th he had proposed that the ships should go to Whampoa without trading, in order to avoid too minatory an attitude, but had not recorded a dissenting minute because he wished the Committee to remain united; that for the same reason he had signed the memorial of October 5th, but had protested verbally against extending the scope of the Committee's demand; but now he parted company with his colleagues in the privacy of their secret sessions, and step by step he protested against all measures designed to prolong the conflict.

It was at this juncture that, on November 16th, Messrs. Magniac & Co. offered their ship, the *Marianne*, to carry dispatches to England.

We have received an application from Messrs Magniac & Co. offering to send the ship *Marianne*, which has been loaded with a cargo of goods for the London Market (not including Tea) to be conveyed thither via Sincapore, by a direct voyage to England for the transmission of despatches if we were willing to grant a license for that purpose; we did not consider ourselves empowered to authorize this infraction of the regulations for the control of British Shipping Trading to China.

The Committee refused this offer, but asked permission to send their dispatches by the ship by way of Singapore, and on November 27th

By the Country Ship *Marianne* which sailed yesterday for Sincapore with the intention of proceeding thence to England, we had the honor to address the Hon'ble Court.

One result of the Committee's revolt against the Chinese authorities was an examination of several anchorages in which

the ships might be sheltered from storms. At the outset all were ordered to Tangku Roads, and the greater number were there to the end, finding there a sufficient shelter during the north-east monsoon ; but for shelter during the south-west monsoon it was judged necessary to survey more carefully the waters of other anchorages and the approaches thereto. Special attention was paid to the Castle Peak anchorage in the Capsingmoon, and to the ' anchorage within the North-West Point of the Island of Hongkong proceeding in an easterly direction towards the Lyeemoon Passage ', an anchorage afterwards known as Hongkong Harbour. During this winter at least three of the Company's ships were anchored in the Capsingmoon and six in Hongkong Harbour.

The arguments of the Committee in their address of the 16th were promptly answered by the Viceroy, who repeated all his old arguments, and in a proclamation affixed to the door of the factory on November 24th declared that

> Doubtless the Committee ought to have yielded implicit obedience to my decision on each point, but now they have again dragged in their former words and whining, dunned petitioning, conduct plainly indicating rebellious opposition.

It was obvious that the Viceroy stood with his back to the wall, but the tone of his mandate, as distinguished from his proclamation, was so far moderate that Mr. Plowden urged his colleagues to accept it as a basis for a settlement—

> The President is of opinion that the best course now to be pursued to bring the present discussion to a close will be to reply to the Viceroy and to waive all the minor points and to represent that since the Laws of China disallowed Foreign Trade to be conducted otherwise than with Security Merchants, we confidently expected after his admission of the reduced state of the Cohong that he would speedily restore it to a healthy condition by appointing men of credit and character to enter the Hong.

The majority refused to accept this proposal and on November 30th drafted a reply which, in moderate terms, maintained all their previous demands ; on this the President recorded a minute that ' he could not give that letter his entire concurrence '. At the same time he gave notice that, in conformity with the Court's permission in their letter of April 1, 1829, he proposed to sail for England in one of the ships of the current season.

The majority of the Committee early in December ordered six ships to Hongkong Harbour, with Mr. Lindsay on board as supercargo, and two to Capsingmoon, with Mr. Clarke on board, giving orders that supplies might be bought, import cargoes sold and delivered, and that any teas sent down might be taken on board; Mr. Plowden protested against this extension of the Company's trade to places outside of Whampoa and Canton. On December 10th the majority voted to issue notices assuring the country people that the sailors from the anchorages would not molest them; against this use of the Company's press Mr. Plowden protested. The majority decided to send the Committee's reports by Messrs. Magniac & Co.'s ship *Norden*, to be dispatched about the end of December to Cowes and Havre; Mr. Plowden preferred to send them by the French ship *Chunqua*, to sail on December 13th for Manila and Havre. The majority voted to support their report by the Committee's consultations up to November 16th; Mr. Plowden considered that it ought to be supported by later consultations, at any rate to December 10th; it seems probable that with the report sent by the *Norden* and received in London May 19, 1830, were sent the consultations to December 21st. On December 16th, as the cash showed a deficit of 717 dollars, Mr. Plowden proposed to open the treasury for bills on Bengal to the amount of 500,000 dollars; the majority objected to any step which indicated any appearance of an intention to open business. The majority ordered the Company's lithographic press to be removed from the President's house at Macao and set up in Mr. Millett's house; against this Mr. Plowden protested, as

> he believes at no other period than the present would so indelicate and derogatory a Proposition have been entertained.

The new Hoppo arrived at Canton on December 18th, and, as he manifested no inclination to deal with the embargo or with the Committee's demands, the Committee on December 25th took into consideration a draft prepared by Mr. Millett of an address, pointing out the serious loss to the Chinese exchequer from the detention of the Company's ships outside, and renewing the demand for redress on the eight points, emphasizing each by a liberal use of the word 'must', and asserting that

these propositions must all be granted together, not one picked out and conceded, while the others are refused.

Mr. Plowden presented an alternative draft, short and moderate in tone, concentrating on the return of Chunqua and the appointment of additional Hong Merchants. Mr. Millett's draft he

considers in every way ill calculated to serve the interests of the East India Company and highly improper to be addressed to any Officer of the Chinese Government; its tendency is to irritate and such a style of correspondence would fully justify the Officers of the Government, to the Emperor of China, for any offensive or hostile acts they might deem it necessary to adopt. . . . It is to be regretted that the temper and caution displayed by the Viceroy has not been reciprocated in our proceedings, and that we have assumed, and are now using, the weapons usually employed by the Chinese themselves.

Mr. Millett's draft was entirely approved, and Mr. Plowden's summarily rejected, by the other two members of the Committee.

On December 30th the Hong Merchants wrote reminding the Committee that in the spring they had contracted for black teas, and had made advances on green teas in the confident expectation of selling them to the Company; that the Committee had accepted no contract black teas and had bought no green teas; and that the approach of the Chinese New Year with no money to come in would leave them in a deplorable position. On receipt of this letter Mr. Plowden recorded that he

cannot avoid expressing his sense of the difficulties in which the Committee are involving the Merchants and of the justice of their claims. As the contract entered into by the Committee with the Hong Merchants is of course binding on both parties, the President considers it is incumbent upon the Board to give them some assurance of its fulfilment on their part, especially as the suspension of the Hon'ble Company's Trade has been self-imposed by the Committee.

To this the majority of the Committee, being the three junior members, declared as their opinion—

The President should remember that the difficulties in which he says we are involving the Merchants commenced under his sanction. If after going with us into a course of proceedings calculated to produce the effect he reprobates, he deserts the cause, those who see no sufficient reason for similar secession cannot justly be taxed with the effect which arose in his opinion, as in ours, from necessity rather than from choice.

In their reply the majority informed the Hong Merchants that they must endure the consequences of the refusal of the Chinese

authorities to admit the justice of the Committee's contention, and to remedy the grievances from which the Company's trade suffered. Previously to this time there had been dissension in the Committee, but from this time the President and the rest of the Board sought every means of opposing each other's proposals. For example, on January 4th the President requested that he might be supplied with a statement of the sales to date of imports delivered from the ships in their anchorages outside the river; but the majority refused on the ground that Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Clarke were too busy.

At this time Mr. Plowden obtained through a private channel and communicated to the Committee what purported to be a copy of the Viceroy's report to the throne on the embargo, dated November 28th. It referred to the Committee's repeated presentation of the eight demands as

> a petition in which they dragged in the former propositions with reiterated whining and insulting disputation—the phraseology was not near common sense and reason. I immediately gave them a severe reply and injunction.

He then informed the Emperor that he hoped that the trade might be opened during December, and describes the measures which he had adopted to prevent a repetition of the events of 1808, when Admiral Drury occupied Macao.

The Hoppo's answer came on January 6th, generally upholding the Viceroy, and declaring that

> the Celestial Empire's harvests are abundant and her wealth vast. The National Treasury is quite full, and does not fundamentally depend upon the petty cargoes of the foreign ships of various nations to supply revenue; but as they have already from remote parts passed over an immense ocean and come to Canton to trade, I the Hoppo will not fail to extend largely to them the Imperial Benevolence, and stoop and condescend to exercise compassion.

The Committee were to abandon all their wild proposals to change existing practice, and they might then be allowed to share in the benefits of trade. This was accepted by Mr. Plowden as a declaration that

> the Chinese Government will not be coerced by the threatening language of the Committee to alter the commercial laws, regulations and usages of the Chinese Empire,

and he proposed that the ships should now be ordered into Whampoa as the only means of averting

the extremity to which the Hon'ble Company's Affairs have now unhappily arrived, and to urge the Committee to extricate them from the impending ruin by which they are threatened.

He would then open the trade, but would press upon the Viceroy the imperative necessity of creating new Hong Merchants.

The majority took into consideration, on January 11th, both the Hoppo's reply and Mr. Plowden's proposal. With the latter they could, of course, not agree; and they found that the repetition by the Hoppo of all the old arguments was wearisome. They now decided, as the continued presence of the ships in Chinese waters filled the minds of the authorities with false hopes, that they must send all the ships but one to Manila, where they would find a sheltered anchorage, and from which they could easily be brought to Canton; but before adopting this plan, they proposed to send a memorial to the Emperor, one copy through the Viceroy, another deposited at Tientsin, others by other channels, in the hope that one at least might reach its destination. Orders were at once sent that the ships were to make ready to proceed to sea; the order to sail would be delayed until the memorial to the Emperor had been sent off; and the presentation of the memorial was to be deferred in the hope that the authorities might repent their past decisions. On the same day the majority decided that a public notice should be issued stopping the country trade and ordering all British ships to leave the river.

To these measures the President did not give his assent; but as an alternative he proposed

that upon his own responsibility he be allowed to order the Ships to Whampoa, and the business of the season to be resumed. The President is willing to take the measure entirely upon his own responsibility. To the Court of Directors and to the Chinese Government he will express himself in such terms, as totally to relieve the other members of the Committee from the Evils which they consider attendant upon a change of measures.

The three junior members declared that

their situation as servants of the Hon'ble Court renders it absolutely impossible for them to divest themselves of the Responsibility attached

to the conduct of the affairs of the Company in a question upon which their Opinions are so diametrically opposite to those of the President.

It was planned that the memorial to the Emperor should be sent sealed, enclosed in an address to the Viceroy, which was to be taken to the city gate by Mr. Jackson, Secretary to the factory, escorted by 'an armed party of 100 Seamen, 10 Officers and 5 Commanders'. Against the ostentation of this proceeding Mr. Plowden protested, warning his colleagues that the address would have a better chance of success if it were sent through the customary channel of the Hong Merchants. Mr. Jackson, escorted as above, left Tongku on the night of January 16th, and delivered the address to a subordinate officer at the outer city gate, the inner gate being shut, on the afternoon of the 18th without any disturbance or opposition. The Viceroy's reply was prompt. He returned the memorial addressed to the Emperor, and sent with it a mandate in which he declared that

it is a fixed rule of Law that foreign Nations having business to suggest, and make requests about, must all send a special Envoy and deliver the same to Governors [Viceroys] and Fooyuens, to communicate the same for them. Again, foreign Nations in one and all of their Affairs, are not allowed to take upon themselves to report abruptly, by a side path, their Affairs in the Imperial presence.

It was assumed that the Committee were ignorant of this rule, and therefore nothing further was done than to return the memorial. On the subject of the address to himself he enumerated one by one the points on which he had made concessions, and the others on which the law and standing rules prohibited his making any change; and he bade them to look up to the benevolence of the Great Emperor, which equals that of Heaven, and to be respectful and submissive; and 'let them not vainly procrastinate and delay', but hasten to open the trade. The Hoppo, to whom also a copy of the memorial for the Emperor had been sent, returned it with the seals unbroken, making also the same explanations and the same exhortation. Both replies were moderate and persuasive in their tone, and this improvement the Committee attributed to their avowed intention of sending their ships to sea away from Chinese jurisdiction; in their reply of January 25th the Committee dwelt more on the

concessions which had been made, and less on the refusal of redress, and they ended their address thus:

> As so many material points have been favorably considered, we look only for an early announcement that the new Merchants have been approved and established, and that an important diminution of the Port charges has been ordered. We will only add that when this is done, we shall feel confidence that Commerce will be conducted on just and liberal principles and we shall be most happy to order our Ships again to enter the Port.

A reply in this sense was recommended by Mr. Plowden as far back as November 16th, as he pointed out in a minute of January 25th, and there had apparently been no change in the situation since that date, either in the promises of redress or in the refusals; and he therefore approved the general tenor of the draft reply.

On January 29th Mr. Plowden submitted for the perusal of the Committee a letter of about 8,000 words which he had addressed to the Chairman of the Court of Directors in support of his opposition to his colleagues, which he asked to have transmitted by the *Bridgewater*, then about to sail; the majority forwarded it with the comment that there was no time for them to make a rejoinder. Mr. Plowden embarked on the *Bridgewater* on the 31st, and Mr. Daniell joined the Committee as fourth member, Mr. Baynes becoming President. The Hong Merchants came to Macao to take leave of Mr. Plowden; on the morning of February 1st the Committee 'were informed that the Merchants had arrived at Macao', but they had no message in anticipation of the Viceroy's reply, which came to hand on the 5th.

In this reply, dated February 2nd, the Viceroy devoted his attention entirely to two subjects. He stated that he had made every effort to secure the appointment of additional Hong Merchants; one had already been appointed, and he had a reasonable hope of obtaining seven or eight more; he did not refer to the extortion which sucked the life-blood from the merchants and brought them, one after the other, to bankruptcy; but he pointed with pride to the fact that whenever one had been made bankrupt he had in addition been most severely punished, not only by having his estates seized, but by being sent into transportation, whereas there was no corresponding obligation to

punish, or even to coerce, foreign debtors. On the subject of the enter-port fee he was less definite, though his language was still inspired by a feeling of benevolence. The matter had been referred to the sacred glance of the Emperor, who had ordered that an inquiry should be held whether the impost might be reduced or abolished; and this would be the subject of anxious thought by himself, the Hoppo, the Treasurer, and the Judge. If the concessions were by no means extensive, the tone of the Viceroy's mandate was exceedingly conciliatory, so much so that the Committee expressed their opinion in the following terms:

> The general tenor of this Document is certainly of the most conciliatory description, and is perhaps more satisfactory in tone and language than anything that has hitherto been received from this Government. We may fairly infer from this circumstance, as well as the style of the last Proclamation received from the Viceroy, that the Government have every wish to preserve the amicable relations which have hitherto existed between this country and our own in the Conduct of the Trade, and without placing too great reliance upon mere words, it is reasonable to conclude that they value the Trade, are apprehensive of its withdrawal, and disposed to act in such a manner hereafter as will in all probability produce tranquillity in Commercial Affairs. It must be confessed that small progress has been made towards the completion of the original Number of the Hong and our knowledge of [the] Chinese character will not permit us to say that the promises to effect that point hereafter can be confided in.

We may imagine the amusement with which the Viceroy would have received the reference to 'the amicable relations', and the indulgent smile with which he would have heard the Committee place China and England on the same plane. In their complacency the Committee determined to order the Company's ships, and to authorize the country ships, to proceed without further delay to Whampoa—

> The event must prove whether or not the determination is founded upon sound judgment. The beneficial Results of the long suspension of Trade must remain a subject of speculation for some months. We sincerely hope that a lasting impression has been made by the measure and that in the final adjustment of the affair we have been guided by motives of sound policy.

The factory left Macao, arriving at Canton on February 18th; and, had he still been in China, Mr. Plowden might well have

asked his colleagues what all the discussion had been about, and why the settlement need have been delayed for six months.

The first of the Committee's hopes to be realized was the return of the elder Chunqua, which occurred on February 20th; but he came without bringing any funds; and, as the Court of Directors had expressed their disapproval of the practice by which the debts owing to other foreigners were liquidated from the profits of the Company's business, and as nothing was owing by that firm to the Company, the Committee decided that it was to have no share in the Company's business. The former share of Chunqua was therefore to be assigned to other Hong Merchants, and this created another difficulty. The Hoppo had notified that a fee of 20,000 dollars was to be paid to him by the only new Hong Merchants who had yet been found; but when it was known that Chunqua was to have no share, the fee payable by the new firm was at once raised to 30,000 dollars. A second Hong Merchant was appointed at the end of February, and a third, 'a man with but small capital', at the end of March.

The only other matter which the Viceroy had promised to take into consideration was the enter-port fee. In the middle of March the Committee obtained surreptitiously a copy of the Viceroy's recommendations to the Emperor. In this he dealt separately with the entrance fee and the clearance fee, the former amounting to Tls. 1,126 and the latter to '500 and odd Tales', both subject to a discount of one-tenth, these being the amounts reported to the throne and accounted for to the Board of Revenue. As the Viceroy justly pointed out, substituting a proportionate assessment for the existing flat rate would be an injustice to the English Company, all of whose ships were of the first class, while of the country ships five to six tenths were of the first class, and of the American ships not more than one-tenth were of the first class. He therefore proposed that there should be a general reduction of two-tenths on these two fees, and none on the remaining charges making up the present (such as Tls. 130 and odd for giving gratuitous sepulture). The Committee record a complaint that this amounted to little more than an eighth of the Tls. 1,950.

LXXXVIII

WIVES: SEDAN CHAIRS: DEPRAVITY, 1830

THE season 1830 opened with the Select Committee composed of Mr. William Baynes (President), and Messrs. C. Millett, J. Bannerman, and J. N. Daniell; but from November 22nd it consisted of Mr. Charles Marjoribanks (President), Mr. John Francis Davis, Mr. James Nugent Daniell, and Mr. Thomas Charles Smith. The books were opened on April 3, 1830, with the following balances:

	Tls.
Cr. by Silver in treasury, 3,138 dollars	2,259
Teak timber in stock	5,498
Tea in stock, 6,295 piculs	157,793
Factory account	5,681
Dead stock (Tls. 23,553), H.C. Sloop (Tls. 10,944)	34,497
Bengal Territorial Department	3,269
Due from Chunqua	3,391
Credit balance	212,388

During the season the Company loaded with tea for London one ship of the previous season (687 tons), 20 of the current season (27,240 tons), and for Halifax and Quebec one (586 tons), a total of 22 ships and 28,513 tons; in addition 6 ships of 2,722 tons were freighted to bring cotton from Indian ports.

The treasury was supplied from the following sources:

	Dollars,	Dollars.
Credit assets as above, Tls. 212,388		294,983
Sales of Company's imports: English, Tls. 1,930,979		2,681,915
Indian, Tls. 1,319,182		1,832,197
Bills on London: salaries, £13,265		55,271
Commanders' cotton profits		131,610
Bills on Bengal: at exch. 200 and 30 days	1,037,712	
,, 202 ,,	1,452,593	
,, 204 ,,	890,867	
		3,381,172
Commanders' and officers' certificates		407,996
Commanders' cotton bonds		622,976
		9,408,120
Value of specie shipped to London		1,910,936
Tls. 5,397,972 =		7,497,184

Of the above sum in bills on Bengal, transfers in favour of Hong Merchants accounted for 2,280,845 dollars. The Company's investments in tea were invoiced as follows :

	Tls.
For London	5,585,940
Quebec and Halifax . . .	114,398
Bengal	6,574
Cape of Good Hope . . .	15,375
St. Helena	7,418
	5,729,705 = 7,957,924 dollars.

The principal features of the trade of the season were as follows :

	Ships.		*Cotton.*	*Tea.*	*Raw Silk.*	*Silk Piece Goods.*	*Nankeens.*
	No.	Tons.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Pieces.
English :							
Company .	22	28,513	147,240	228,573 [2]	..	..	..
Private .	50	26,427	351,409	20,614 [3]	6,668 [4]	93,000	925,250
American .	25	10,000 [1]	3,271	54,386 [5]	285	262,107	125,750
Dutch . .	5	4,000 [1]	..	4,000	100	23,350	..
French . .	5	3,000 [1]	..	..	..	..	..
Danish . .	1	800 [1]	..	..	..	..	..
Sardinian .	1	600 [1]	..	..	..	..	..
	109	73,340	501,920	307,573	7,053	378,457	1,051,000

Among the English country ships 14 are indicated as 'not entering the river', i. e. stopping at Lintin ; included among them was the steamer *Forbes*, 302 tons, arrived from Calcutta April 26th towing the opium ship *Jamesina*, sailed for Calcutta May 8, 1830, the first steamship in Chinese waters. In addition to the shipping at Whampoa and Lintin enumerated above, there were at Macao 26 Spanish and 15 Portuguese ships ; one trading to Rio de Janeiro (and Lisbon), the rest all for India and the Islands.

The stock of English manufactures realized the following sums :

	Invoice cost.		
	f.o.b.	*c.i.f.*	*Realized.*
	£	£	Tls.
Woollens . . .	435,811	489,228	1,660,511
British calicoes . .	29,165	32,065	108,000
Cotton yarn . .	15,232	17,538	58,320

[1] Estimated.

[2] To London, 223,247 piculs ; to Quebec and Halifax, 4,254 piculs ; elsewhere, 1,072 piculs.

[3] To London, 15,052 piculs ; to Indian ports, 5,562 piculs.

[4] Nanking silk, 2,988 piculs ; Canton silk, 3,680 piculs.

[5] To United States 38,135 piculs ; to Europe, 16,251 piculs.

The woollens were sold this season at a reduced price: broadcloth, superfines, Tls. 1·30 a yard; supers, Tls. 0·90; worsters, Tls. 0·80; Long Ells, Tls. 5·50 a piece; camlets, 19 dollars a piece. At the close of the season the Hong Merchants handed to the Committee a petition from the Cloth Dealers' Gild complaining that the quality of the Company's cloths had deteriorated from the days when a bale with the Company's mark could circulate unopened throughout the empire, in full confidence that the contents would be as declared.

> Such an instance of implicit confidence is we believe almost without a Parallel in any part of the World, and it would be cause of the greatest regret to us did we conceive that there was any probability of that confidence being impaired.

Such a feeling of confidence existed also in transactions in tea, subject to the right of the Committee to have the teas appreciated by their own inspectors. It was seldom that this appreciation was disputed; and the decision of the Court of Directors as to the amount to be debited to each merchant for defective teas was accepted without question, the amount so debited in this season being Tls. 11,246. As a result of the disputes of the previous season the Committee decided to discontinue the practice of entering into specific contracts for certain quantities and assortments of tea.

> These Contracts have of late years been confined only to Fokien Bohea, Congo and Twankay, the Merchants having constantly refused to include any other species. The futility of all attempts to make a formal deed binding upon those who had interests at variance with its tenor has been frequently apparent, whereas we were obliged to adhere to an agreement which was occasionally enforced to our disadvantage, but was never available to our benefit. . . . We are quite secure in the full amount of our wants being easily met and a simple declaration of those wants will prove as effective as any contracts could be. We called upon the Merchants for a return of the quantity of each variety of Tea which they would engage to bring down, and these returns have been adhered to in our eventual arrangement as nearly as our wants enabled us to conform to their wishes.

In order to strengthen the position of the new Hong Merchants (the last four on the subjoined list) their offers were accepted in full, the adjustment being made by cutting down the seniors;

but the quantity engaged was large, as the winter teas amounted only to 6,295 piculs (about 10,000 chests). The price named is that per picul usually paid for the appreciation 'ordinary', below which the Committee declared that they would accept no teas.

	Bohea. Chests.[1]	*Twankay.* Chests.	*Hyson.* Chests.	*Hyson Skins.* Chests.	*Souchong.* Chests.	*Congou.* Chests.
Price per picul	Tls. 16	Tls. 26	Tls. 50	Tls. 27	Tls. 34	Tls. 25
Howqua . .	8,000	14,000	2,000	600	1,200	25,000
Mowqua . .	6,000	10,000	1,500	500	1,000	20,000
Puankhequa .	6,000	10,000	1,200	350	1,000	20,000
Goqua . .	22,800	10,800	1,400	400	1,400	20,500
Kinqua . .	1,200	3,000	500	200	800	16,000
Fatqua . .	..	..	..	..	..	15,000
Hengtae . .	..	500	100	40	..	5,000
Chungwo .	7,000	3,000	200	50	1,000	10,000
Shuntae .	1,200	3,000	1,000	300	1,000	7,000
Yunwo .	..	1,500	300	120	..	7,000
	52,200	55,800	8,200	2,560	7,400	145,500

The Committee essayed to standardize the size of the Congou and Twankay chests, as follows :

Congou : 1·60 covids long, 1·185 covids wide, 1·47 covids high, must contain 63 catties of Congou, or 62 of Fukien Bohea.

Twankay : 1·72 covids long, 1·30 covids wide, 1·47 covids high, must contain 60 catties of Twankay.

The covid was the carpenter's covid of Canton (14·1 English inches).

In the above table no engagement with Chunqua is shown. The position of that firm was too much shaken to allow of any contract or understanding with it at the opening of the season, when the debt to the Company amounted only to Tls. 3,391 ; and at the close, on January 5, 1831, the Committee were informed by Mr. W. Jardine, as trustee for the foreign creditors, that the total liabilities of the firm were—

	Dollars.	Dollars.
For British claims . . .	449,886	
Interest to date . . .	111,606	
		561,492
For other foreign claims . .	248,087	
Interest to date . . .	52,530	
		300,617
Total		862,109

[1] Congou chests.

The Hong Merchants collectively reported that sufficient assets had been realized to pay 200,000 dollars before the end of the Chinese year, the liability for duties being a first charge, and another sum of 100,000 dollars by the fourth moon.

According to the census there were in Canton on April 5, 1830, the following foreign residents other than Portuguese and natives of India :

British :	in Company's factory (including two who arrived in November)	29	
	Private English	30	
			59
American			19
Dutch			2
French			2
Spanish			4
			86

The Americans included the Rev. Elijah Coleman Bridgman and the Rev. David Abeel, the first Protestant missionaries to arrive in China subsequent to the arrival of the Rev. Robert Morrison. The last named continued to serve the Company as translator and teacher, and in this season his salary was increased from £1,000 to £1,300, the amount paid to the senior surgeon ; and the Committee recommended to the Court that he be placed on the same footing as the surgeons for pension or retired pay ; but the Court refused to sanction the increase.

Mr. James Innes was among the private English, and was active, or even aggressive, in resisting injustice. During the previous season he had imported buttons, which had been rated at the Custom house as 74,080 gold buttons and 43,200 silver buttons, and 11,330 handkerchiefs rated as large. He resisted the payment of duty on this basis, declaring to the Committee that the buttons were all copper or brass, and that similar handkerchiefs had been passed through another Hong Merchant as small. The Security Merchants, Fatqua and Kinqua, appealed to the Committee, who upheld Mr. Innes.

A memorial to the throne is recorded under date of August 18, 1830, presented by the ' Canton Government ' in answer to an imperial decree in which opium is referred to in connexion with the drain of silver.

Foreign ships, under the pretence of carrying on a Traffic in merchandize but especially for the purpose of bringing Foreign Money, come to the Sea Ports in the several Provinces, and purchase Sycee Silver, so that the Silver of the Interior is daily becoming more scarce and the Foreign Coin every day more plentiful. Furthermore, Opium flowing into the Interior, is all in consequence of Foreign ships laden with it, sailing to Macao, Amoy and other places, where they cast anchor ; here they either clandestinely connect themselves with the Clerks or Runners who undertake to aid them in introducing (Opium) through the Custom Houses ; or the Military and Police Runners belonging to the Cruisers secretly smuggle it on behalf of the crafty designing Foreigners, and on their account dispose of it by sale ; or receiving Fees they secretly connive and allow the designing Foreigners to follow their own inclinations, and disperse it to the Merchant Vessels of the different Provinces, where it is stowed on board and taken to various places to be disposed of by sale.

In their reply the Canton authorities admitted that, to stop the outgo of silver and the inflow of opium required the utmost vigilance at all points and a resolution to enforce the law rigorously—

but as the source proceeds from outside Foreigners who are separated by vast Oceans at a distance of several times 10,000 Le, there are no means of preventing them from coming. It is not as in the case of Annam, Burma and other nations—if they oppose the Laws, rigorous and urgent commands may be issued to their Kings with injunctions for a strict prohibition.

To deal thus with foreigners was not feasible ; but making the trade unprofitable, by placing impediments in its way, might induce foreigners to abandon it.

Later in the same month the *Peking Gazette* of August 25th contained an imperial decree prohibiting the cultivation of the poppy and the production of opium in China. On the memorial of the censor Chao Tsinghwa, who denounced opium as a poison and reported extensive production in Chekiang to his knowledge, and, as he had heard, in Fukien, Kwangtung, and Yunnan, the Emperor decreed—

I order the Viceroys and Fooyuens to cause a strict and true inquiry to be made in the places subject to them. If there are Traitorous Natives who grow and sell Opium, let them reprimand and correct the Local Officers and forthwith investigate clearly and adjudge a punishment for the offence : let them hold a deliberation on what appears the most advisable mode of suppression and report the Regulations deter-

mined upon to me. If in the places subject to them there is really no cultivation of Opium, I also enjoin them to investigate with sincerity and report back to me. I look to all for a true Investigation and a clean extinction of the evil, Root and Branch. If they regard this proclamation as a mere matter of form and a name without reality, whenever I am aware of it, I shall hold the respective Viceroys and Fooyuens responsible. Tremble at this and respect it.

This was the first record of an express prohibition of the production of opium in China, and it produced no more effect than the many decrees prohibiting the importation of the foreign drug. At the close of this season, writing on January 11, 1831, to the Secretary to Government at Fort William, the Committee reported—

During the last year little or no interruption has been experienced by the fleet laying at Lintin and among the other Islands at the mouth of the river. The trade in Opium and many other commodities is there openly carried on under the tacit sanction of the Government to which a regular report is made by the Native Pilots twice every month of the number of vessels which are there at anchor.

Usually Turkey opium was imported only in American ships on account of American merchants, and during this season 1,428 chests were so imported; but in addition 243 chests, which had been landed at Singapore from American ships, were brought on to China in British ships. Singapore is, in fact, within ten years of its foundation, at once a convenience and a thorn in the side of the Company at Canton. For the second year an offer is made, this year by Thomas Dent & Co., to send through to London a ship loaded for Singapore.

We have the honor to communicate to you that the fast sailing Bark *Royal Charlotte* is now at Lintin ready to proceed on her voyage with a cargo of sundry China Produce (excepting Tea) intended for transhipment at Singapore for London, and that the destination of the vessel can be altered for London Direct.

At Macao the Governor's jealousy of the English Company continued. In June the renting of a small house for one of the Company's staff could not go through because the Governor demanded that his permission should be formally applied for; but when the Committee protested to the Senate, the Governor withdrew his objection. In the matter of Captain Baker the Governor and Captain-General of Portuguese India maintained

that all the forms and requirements of Portuguese law had been complied with, and that, as the defendant had been released, there was now no cause of complaint. On the subject of the consular status of the President, he further declared that new instructions, dated October 11, 1828, had been sent by the Portuguese Government that official representation by both Governments was to be strictly regulated by the terms of the treaty of February 19, 1810, between Portugal and Great Britain; that under this no consular function could be exercised for one nationality until after communication to and approval by the authorities of the other nationality; and that he would instruct the Governor of Macao to treat all representations by the Select Committee of the Honourable East India Company as made by British merchants and British subjects, but with the utmost respect and consideration. The rejoinder of the Committee to this was a long report to Lord William Cavendish Bentinck, Governor-General in Council, dated January 12, 1831, on the status of Macao—

> a brief notice of the nature of the Portuguese tenure of Macao and the system upon which its authorities have almost undeviatingly proceeded.

The Portuguese had never received a grant of any part of the island of Macao, but had been allowed to erect reed shelters to dry their cargoes, had by degrees substituted substantial houses for these shelters, and had developed a system of self-government which saved the Chinese authorities the trouble of administration. But it was to be noted that

> a Chinese civil Magistrate or Governor resides in the Town of Macao, and issues Proclamations to the Portuguese authorities using the word employed to its own native subjects by the Government of China signifying 'Mandate'.

The supposition that the sovereignty of Macao should have been presented as a gift to the King of Portugal as a mark of gratitude for their help in suppressing piracy, could only be characterized as fiction. The Portuguese authorities were in a state of vassalage to the Chinese officials, not daring to oppose the least wish of the Viceroy or of the resident magistrate, or to give to British subjects the smallest protection against Chinese oppression. The refusal to recognize the consular capacity of the President was

only an indication of the jealousy which had always been shown to the English, from the time when they were struggling for entry into a commerce which was then monopolized by the Portuguese, through the period when, of all its former trade, Macao still retained the lion's share in the lucrative opium trade alone, down to the present when the Macaoese gained a precarious livelihood in letting lodgings to the more prosperous British, and in making it uncomfortable to occupy those lodgings. The Committee then suggested that the Government of Goa should be asked to procure a modification in the instructions given to the administrators of Macao.

Over the whole season hung the shadow of the altercations with the Chinese of the previous year. Before the factory, on April 14th, left for Macao a letter was sent to the Viceroy upbraiding him for not having produced the elder Chunqua, as such a failure to keep his promise

> involves a principle upon which the very existence of trade depends; injustice of the most flagrant kind has been committed and must be repaired, nor can we ever consider the subject as set at rest until the promises made to us have been religiously performed.

This was the act of the majority of the Committee, Messrs. Baynes, Millett, and Bannerman; Mr. Daniell dissented, as he felt confident that the Viceroy had exerted himself, but had not been able to override the influence of Chunqua's money and friends.

A few days after the arrival of the factory in Macao, the Committee were informed that the Kwangchow Fu had lost no time in removing the additional earth with which the ground in front of the factories at Canton had been improved. On April 27th the Hong Merchants communicated a mandate by the Hoppo that all debts claimed as due to foreigners were to be at once declared, and that debts not so declared would not be recognized in case of the bankruptcy of the Chinese debtor.

A mandate from the Hoppo, dated May 11th, communicated the fact that the imperial sanction had been given for a reduction of the 'present'; the enter-port fee was reduced from Tls. 1,013·364 to Tls. 810·691, other small fees were slightly reduced, and as the net result the total present was lowered from Tls. 1,950 to Tls. 1,718·502 for the English Company's ships. French, Prussian, and Austrian ships, paying normally 100 taels

more, and Soola (possibly English country) ships paying normally 100 taels less, were to be reduced in the same proportion.

On June 20th, at a consultation, the Committee decided that the early ships were on their arrival to be detained outside the Bogue, north of the island of Hongkong, at Cowloon, i. e. in Hongkong Harbour, and were not to be allowed up at Whampoa until the end of September, up to which time

> the crews would be exposed not only to the unhealthiness of the situation, but to the temptation of procuring liquor, and it may be added without exaggeration to the encreased risk of quarrels and accidents with the Chinese.

The Committee considered that there was no fear that the Chinese would misunderstand the reasons, which could be easily explained if required ; and the commanders were instructed

> to be particularly attentive in not allowing any smuggling to take place from your Ship ; you will avoid all communication with the ships engaged in the Opium Trade and you will permit no Cargo to be landed from your ship without the permission of the Select Committee.

By September 12th sixteen ships had arrived for the Company laden with Indian cotton or with English products ; and by detachments between that date and the 18th they were moved up to Whampoa.

The earliest arrival, on July 20th, brought a dispatch from the Governor-General in Council, dated May 7th, in which they informed the Committee that

> We rejoice exceedingly at the renewal of your commercial intercourse with the Chinese Authorities, for we had felt extreme regret and apprehension at the suspension of a Trade of such vital importance to the Honorable Company, and of such immense value to the British Empire. This happy event renders unnecessary the further consideration of the measures, which we had in contemplation, with a view to the accomplishment of the same result.

At the same time they pointed out that they could not have co-operated in the way recommended by the Committee : they had no means of transmitting dispatches to the Court of Peking through Nepaul or any other channel ; and those of His Majesty's ships of war which the Committee asked to have sent could not be spared from India, and ' measures of Intimidation seemed to us to be unsuited to the occasion '. The Committee in their

consultation disclaimed all intention of intimidation, but recorded their opinion that—

> The Company's Interests in this Country have too many enemies for us to hope that any circumstance which may have a tendency to lower the influence of the Representatives will pass unnoticed, and if in addition to the many difficulties we have to contend against in our Discussions with the Chinese Government, an idea should prevail that we are not supported, little hope remains that our Representations whether directed against injustice, or encroachments on our Commercial Privileges will ever be attended to; and if silently submitted to, the past has shewn that one aggression is the prelude only to another.

On July 31st the Committee record the reduction in the amounts payable for each Company's ship as comprador's fees. Enumerated under fifty-three heads the sums payable formerly amounted to 848 dollars, and now were declared to have been reduced to 496 dollars. For country ships the reduction was from 672 to 392 dollars.

The factory moved up from Macao on October 3rd, and on the 4th the President (Mr. Baynes) arrived in Canton with his family. He was met by a demand from the Dutch Consul for the arrest of three Parsees, servants of Merwanjee Hormosjee, a Parsee merchant, for the murder on September 30th of Captain F. Mackenzie, commanding the Dutch ship *Vrouw Helena*. The facts of the case were as follows:

> Mr. Bovet, a Swiss dealer in watches, ordered a private lock to be put on the back door of the Dutch Hong, which is a public door for all inmates of the said Hong. Merwanjee wishing to go out, asked for the key which was refused. He then ordered three of his servants to break the lock. Mr. Bovet then came with a sword and attacked them; the Parsees took the sword out of his hand. Mr. Bovet ran away crying for help. Captain Mackenzie hearing the noise came out to assist and struck one of the Parsees with his umbrella. The Parsees then struck him on the head with wooden clubs or sticks; at 7 a.m. next morning he died of the wounds received.

The Dutch Consul, Mr. J. S. van Basel, empanelled a jury of 12 (3 British, 4 American, 1 Spanish, and 4 with English or American names), who found that the death of Captain Mackenzie was caused by blows inflicted by three Parsees in an affray. The three culprits were arrested and confined in the English Company's factory. The Viceroy sent immediate orders to the

merchants that the affair was to be investigated by them in conjunction with the Namhoi Hien, citing as a precedent the case of the sailor of the *Stormont*[1] in 1780. The Committee decided that it would serve no useful purpose to call for a further investigation—

> In the present case the verdict of an English Jury would probably be that of manslaughter, but were it even a case of murder, we have no authority to institute judicial proceedings, and no difference of opinion can exist as to the extreme impolicy of allowing the Chinese Government to interfere where their own countrymen are not concerned.

The Committee, impressed by the casual attitude of the Hong Merchants and their indifference, were not convinced of the seriousness of the official demand, and they further

> wished to inculcate the maxim that tho' the Trade may have its advantages, these will never be purchased, by Englishmen at least, at the price of national disgrace.

They accordingly resolved to send the three accused back to Bombay without delay, trusting that the Viceroy, when he found that the men were out of his grasp, would drop the matter ; and in this decision the Dutch Consul concurred. The three culprits were then sent down to Lintin with orders that they be placed on the *Edmondstone*, a ship consigned to another Parsee merchant, on which they left for Bombay on October 17th. The Viceroy showered his orders on the Hong Merchants, arguing that the trial must be held at the place where the crime was committed ; but finally, on October 29th, the Committee record their opinion that

> the boasted immutability of Chinese Laws and Customs is chimerical, that the Laws of China at least in Canton are in a great measure the Viceroy's will. . . . A perusal of the different Edicts on the subject of the three Parsees will forcibly illustrate the truth of this. At first a demand is formally made for the murderers to be given up, and tried by the Laws of the Celestial Empire, which must be strictly enforced ; on being foiled in this, we are told that the Law ordains that Foreigners killing Foreigners are to be tried in China according to the Foreign Law, but that the Chinese authorities must be by to witness the execution ; this not succeeding, we are allowed the liberty of judging, punishing or acquitting as we think proper, but that a full account must be given of all the evidence ; and finally the question is given up, and abandoned in the face of all these peremptory and official Edicts.

[1] Cf. vol. ii, p. 59.

The pursuit was abandoned thus early, because the case had become entangled with three more serious causes of complaint against foreigners, and was completely overshadowed by them; for in this month of October the Viceroy formally complained that the Chief of the English factory, Mr. Baynes, had brought a foreign woman, his wife, to Canton; that foreigners presumed, contrary to law, to ride in sedan chairs; and that some among them were vicious and depraved. In the extraordinary campaign which is now to be described it is difficult to say whether the Chinese authorities, in their exasperation, deliberately adopted a policy of pin-pricks, or the entire foreign community, exasperated at the long-established state of degradation to which they were condemned, finally rose in revolt.

On October 4th, Mr. Baynes, coming to Canton with the rest of the factory, was accompanied by his wife; and on the 11th the Kwangchow Fu transmitted to the Hong Merchants the orders of the Viceroy:

> I the Viceroy on inquiry have heard that at Canton there is a foreign Merchant, who has from Macao brought a foreign woman (or his wife) to Canton to dwell with him in the foreign factory. This is manifestly done by the connivance and protection of the Hong Merchants and Linguists. If it be not strictly enquired into interdicted and an expulsion take place, hereafter there will be a confused bustle, and worse imitation, which will be a great and wicked innovation on the laws and regulations of the Celestial Empire.

The Kwangchow Fu, with the Namhoi Hien, was to summon the Hong Merchants and linguists to his tribunal, and was to ascertain who was responsible for the foreign woman, in what factory she was, whether her presence had been reported to the Customs authorities and sanctioned by them; and they were to order the Chief of the nation involved to send the woman back to Macao. This mandate was sent on by the Hong Merchants, who knew full well who the woman was, with the prayer—

> We also pray you to send back the foreign woman soon to Macao and thus enable us to answer the Government (that the order has been obeyed;) if she does not go down to Macao, we must incur the Viceroy's anger and reproof. At such a time (when the Viceroy is angry) ask your hearts, Gentlemen, if they also would not feel uneasy.

Under the same date, October 11th, the Kwangchow Fu trans-

mitted a further order from the Viceroy on the subject of sedan chairs:

It appears that the foreigners of the various nations coming to Canton to trade, have hitherto not been permitted, on the territory of the capital of a Province of the Celestial Empire, to go about seated in sedan chairs. Now . . . a foreign writer of the Company, Mr. Astell, who had come up from Macao to Canton, had been seen publicly entering his Factory seated in a chair. This really was acting contrary to the dignity of the regulations. . . . Furthermore with severity and earnestness make the Hong Merchants and Linguists responsible and command them to enjoin the order on the said Nation's Chief, that hereafter Foreigners, going from their Factories to their Boats, and from their Boats to their Factories, must all, as of old, walk on foot—they must not overstep their station, or rank, and go about in chairs. If they presume purposely to oppose, immediately shall the Hong Merchants and Linguists be degraded and examined, without any clemency being extended to them.

A third mandate of the same date commanded that an inquest should be held—by the Chinese authorities—on the body of Captain Mackenzie. The Committee regarded the order forbidding the use of sedan chairs as an insult, and they at once hung up at the gate of each of the Company's factories a notification in the Chinese character, ordering that

hereafter every class of persons sitting in sedan chairs shall be disallowed to enter the Gate of the Company's Factory. The Porter is ordered to intercept all chairs and prevent their entering; if any person refuses to listen to him, both the chair and the individual will assuredly be expelled by force.

On the 16th the Hoppo entered the arena, transmitting to the Hong Merchants the Viceroy's commands on the subject of foreign women, and adding an historical note on his own account—

Receiving this communication I examined and find that for foreign Merchants to bring with them married or unmarried women to Canton to dwell, has already in the 16th year of Kienlung (1751) been interdicted by the then Viceroy, Chin.

The Chinese seized this moment to post up a proclamation referring to the depraved morals of the foreigners and enjoining on the merchants and linguists the duty of bringing them up to the level of Chinese civilization. No copy of the proclamation is to be found in the records, but there is every reason to believe that its wording was the same as that posted up on the occasion

of Lord Napier's visit in 1834 and on Admiral Maitland's in 1836.[1] In this year 1830 this annually repeated insult drove the unofficial English to address the Committee in a protest:

We have lately seen with feelings of indignation two Chops issued by His Excellency the Viceroy and placarded on the Walls of the Company's Factory, one an exaggerated repetition of an annual Proclamation respecting Servants, Etc., the other prohibiting Foreigners from using Sedan Chairs, both of them unusually insulting in their language, and promulgated with the evident design of holding up Foreigners to the eyes of the Chinese, as an inferior and abject class which must tend to bring them into contempt with the lower orders of Society, and ultimately endanger their personal safety. We are firmly convinced from experience that the relative situation of foreigners in this Country is made worse, and never improved, by tame submission to indignity. Under this conviction we deem it essential to make known to you our sentiments on this occasion, and beg to express our hope that you will feel disposed to co-operate with the community at large, in making them the subject of a remonstrance to Government.

This was signed by twenty-six English merchants, headed by James Innes, including many names of those who were afterwards to found houses in the free-trade China which was now in sight, and including representatives of both of the two existing firms of Thos. Dent & Co. and Magniac & Co. The Committee's comment on the protest was as follows:

We are not surprized that the late Proclamations should have had the effect of exciting the general indignation of Foreigners they seem indeed to have been studiously got up for the purpose of galling their feelings and holding them up to the contempt of the lower orders of Natives. . . . The annual Proclamation respecting Servants has within the last few days been placarded to the Walls of our own Factories; besides language the most grossly insulting and opprobrious, it contains insinuations which to a Chinese mind are equal to positive charges against foreigners of crimes so shameful and atrocious, that we have hitherto refrained from polluting our records with the mention of them. This year they have attracted the notice of the Community in a greater degree than usual, having appeared (though from regard to Public Decency in a very modified form) in the Canton Register, a paper which now universally circulated through the East.

The Committee then drew up a remonstrance addressed to the Viceroy declaring, with many quotations from the Chinese classics, that all within the four seas were brethren, protesting

[1] Cf. Morse, *International Relations of the Chinese Empire*, vol. i, chap. vii, § 21.

against the degrading terms of the Viceroy's proclamation, and deriding the notion that merchants and linguists of such defective education were qualified to lead the foreign residents into the paths of the higher civilization and to repress their pride and profligacy. As to the order that they were not to step outside their status and ride in sedan chairs, the Committee begged to inform the Viceroy that all the supercargoes and writers were the sons and brothers of country gentlemen, and that Mr. Astell, who was made the text for the prohibition,

> is the son of one who has often been at the head of the Company's Court, and who has many years been a member of the Great Council of the British Nation. How talk of his overstepping his rank by sitting in a chair !

Reference was also made to the mandate ordering that foreign women should be removed from Canton.

> According to the laws of England every man can marry but one wife. The custom of concubinage does not exist. Therefore the persons the Edict calls foreign Women are the wives of foreign merchants. The Company's servants are required to be in Canton six or more months every year. How does it accord with reason and the feelings of human nature to declare that the wife shall not accompany her husband and quietly reside in the factory with him !

On October 20th the Hong Merchants brought a mandate reiterating the demand for the surrender of Captain Mackenzie's murderers, and, having communicated it, Howqua then gave a verbal message from the Viceroy :

> As to women coming to Canton the old Law forbids it. It never can be permitted and the Chief is desired to send away the Lady forthwith. If she cannot move immediately, the Merchants must ascertain in how many days she will go. If the Chief says he will not remove the Foreign Lady, in two or three days, if she still be here, soldiers will be sent to the Factory to seize and drive her out. The Chief is to tell the Merchants what day she goes.

The Committee at once took alarm at the threat that soldiers might, for any cause, be sent into the factories to effect an arrest or an expulsion.

> The admission of such a power would render us liable at every hour, and on every occasion, to the intrusion of an armed force, it would not only violate the security of the valuable property entrusted to our charge and subject our persons to insult, but it would be a virtual

abandonment of the only protecting privilege we possess in China. We therefore felt that any measure resembling concession on such a point, would be highly injurious to the Interests and Honor of the British Nation of which we are in this Country the Representatives. . . . We therefore came to the determination, with reference to the abstract question of personal security, to resist this menace of violating the Precincts of our Factory, hitherto held sacred, to the utmost extremity.

They accordingly wrote to the senior commander directing him to send up one hundred armed seamen and two quarter-deck carronades for the protection of the Company's factory; and this force was in the factory by the morning of October 21st. On that day the Hong Merchants called and reported that the Viceroy had declared that the presence of ladies was 'not of sufficient importance to employ force to drive them away'; and they urged the Committee to consider the threat as an ebullition of temper, and to rely on their collective security for their personal safety. This the Committee refused to agree to—

In an affair of so much importance we did not consider any security they could offer as at all satisfactory, and the guard would not be removed from our Factory, until we received some document from the Viceroy, which would warrant us to consider our persons and property secure from the intrusion of an armed force, while within the precincts of our own Factory.

On October 21st the Viceroy answered the representations of the Committee by a long mandate to the Hong Merchants. Concerning the bringing by foreigners of foreign women to Canton, he cited two precedents: in 1751 a Dutch merchant brought up a foreign woman, who was sent back to Macao in custody; and in 1769 an English merchant brought up a foreign slave woman, who

was sent in custody to Macao, and the Hong Merchants, Linguists, Compradors and Government Messengers were severely chastized and degraded.

This was a long-established rule, and there was no intention of allowing it to be broken. As to sedan chairs, if the foreigners were sick, or if the rain fell, chairs might be excusable, but the general prohibition was of old standing and could not be set aside. As to the repeated proclamation against profligacy, renewed every year since 1792, it was meant as a help to the strangers coming to a land of which they did not know the

language, history, laws, or customs, and it ordered the merchants and linguists to instruct them so that they should not be entangled in the net of the law ; turning this kindly intention into a disgrace and an insult really ' shows their ignorance of the substantialities '. To sum up, all these prohibitions were of old standing and they must be enforced.

On October 25th, and again on the 28th, the Committee addressed to the Viceroy temperate expostulations on the attempt to enforce such ridiculous prohibitions and on the repetition of such public insults. On the 29th the Hong Merchants came with his reply.

> The first question that presented itself was whether the assurances contained in the Viceroy's letter were sufficient to satisfy us, as regarded the inviolability of our Factories and our Persons, and whether after the pledge we had demanded, we could consistently be satisfied with anything less. The Letter we do believe to be meant as a peace offering, and intended to convey the pledge we required, altho the wording of it certainly does not amount to this, in fact it leaves us at liberty, either to accept and construe it to our purpose, or to reject it altogether as falling short of what we consider ourselves justified in demanding after the Viceroy's conduct.

On mature reflection they decided that it was possible to accept the Viceroy's words, added to the Hong Merchants' earnest assurances, as giving them full security for their persons and property ; and they wrote a short letter informing the Viceroy that they accepted his assurances and were about to send their guard of sailors back to their ships. This was done on October 31st ; and on November 1st the Viceroy sent a mandate ordering the Hong Merchants

> to inform the Chief and others that since they have become penitent and are awakened to solicit protection, the Viceroy will assuredly not send the military to surround (the factory) and expell (persons) ; they were further to enjoin these commands on the Chief and others for their obedience thereto : hereafter they must implicitly obey the laws and regulations of the Celestial Empire. They must not in the least disobey, but must set an example and induce all foreigners, every one of them to keep in their proper stations and so not cause the whole foreign Trade to be interdicted.

This mandate the Committee professed to find highly satisfactory, and they accepted it as a proof that the decisive measure

of bringing up the sailor guard had produced every result which was desired; they found it especially satisfactory that this result had been obtained without a stoppage of trade on either side. For one thing the Committee were able to congratulate themselves—that the discussions on other matters had caused the authorities to drop their demand for the surrender of the three Parsees.

The authorities had not had their will without challenge, and they looked around for some one on whom to vent their wrath. On November 1st the Committee were informed that the shipment of some teas supplied by Goqua had been stopped by order of the Hoppo—

> Goqua privately informed us that the real cause of this stoppage was his resisting an attempt on the part of the Hoppo to extort 10,000 Dollars from the Hong, in the form of a present, in order to make up some deficiency in the Hoppo's private emoluments caused by Chunqua's failure. On hearing this we immediately adopted the measure we have for some seasons pursued, of stopping all the Chops from the other Hongs; this was done with the object of assisting Goqua in his resistance to such an iniquitous extortion, and with the same object we forwarded a protest to the Hoppo.

The Committee, finding this protest of no avail, addressed further protests on November 4th to the Viceroy and to the Hoppo. On the 5th the embargo was raised; but in a mandate of that date the Hoppo charged against Goqua, that

> the Namhoi Hien had requested orders to send this Merchant to him for examination, as he had often delivered foreign letters to Banditti, to go to sea and bring Opium, hoping to gain money to supply his extravagance, and, although in mourning for his father, to purchase dancing girls, etc. The teas stopped were from the Manyune and Tienpow hongs . . . and those from Tungyu (Goqua) are not yet examined . . . but as the Hong Merchant Tungyu has got into the serious business of trading in Opium, and must hereafter ruin the affairs of the Hong, since the root and branches of this are now exposed, how could I desist from investigating the subject? . . . The teas of Tungyu which have not yet been examined, must wait till the crime of which the said Merchant is accused be clearly enquired into.

The mandate continued in this strain, and so did that from the Viceroy; but

> on delivering the above Edicts Mowqua assured us that they were a tissue of falsehoods from beginning to end. There is not the slightest

vestige of foundation for any of the sweeping charges brought against Goqua's Hong.

On November 16th, although the port clearances of four ships, then ready for dispatch, had been applied for more than a week previously, only two had been issued ; and as these were the first dispatches of the season, the Committee thought it important that no technical error of a Security Merchant should be allowed to delay one of the Company's ships. They then directed the *Dunira* and the *Duchess of Atholl*, which were without Grand Chops, to sail through the Bogue in company with the two having their Grand Chops, and instructed their commanders—

in case you should be fired at by the Fort at the Bocca Tigris, you are in the first instance to return with blank cartridges, but should your ship be struck and the lives of the crew endangered you are permitted to fire Ball.

This action was taken by the Committee on a majority vote ; Mr. Daniell was leaving that day, sick, for Macao, but after his return he on November 24th recorded a minute that his opinion had not been asked, and that he dissented. The Grand Chops for the two ships were issued on the 17th, but the ships passed the Bogue that same day, the *Dunira* reporting that

On passing through the Bogue a Gun (not shotted) was fired from the Fort, and the same returned by me.

This was the last act of aggression committed by the three members of the Select Committee who had raised the flag of revolt against the President, overruling his opinion up to his departure at the end of January, 1830, and thereafter themselves constituting the Committee. For upwards of ten years from the date of the affairs of H.M.S. *Topaze* and of the American ship *Emily*, the relations between the Chinese authorities and the foreign traders had settled into a give-and-take method which worked with not too much friction, and with not much more than the usual amount of extortion. The exactions were levied by the Chinese officials on the Chinese merchants, and not directly on the foreign traders, except for the measurage of their ships and the squeeze on the supply of provisions ; but through these exactions the Chinese merchants were brought, some of them, to

bankruptcy, and by this bankruptcy the foreign traders suffered heavy monetary losses. In addition to the effect of these losses, the foreign community felt keenly the visible marks of inferiority imposed on them by a race whose superiority they did not admit. Apart from the Parsees, vociferous at Bombay but not producing much effect at Canton, the foreign community had within the past few years become more numerous, including twenty-nine in the English Company's factory, and on April 5, 1830, of private English thirty, and of American nineteen.

The Company's supercargoes in their corporate capacity suffered few inconveniences which could not be mitigated by the vigilance in which they had been trained in a long and well-paid service; but as Englishmen they shared the feelings of the private English, and in their revolt from Mr. Plowden's presidency they allowed their private feelings to override their public duty. Their feelings were shared by practically all the supercargoes below the Committee and by the writers, who (except Mr. Daniell) signed a letter to the Court of Directors on Mr. Plowden's departure expressing their conviction that the course pursued by the majority of the Committee was the only method by which justice could be obtained. The Court took prompt action. Ten years yet were required before administrators in London, whether the Directors of the Company or the Ministry of the United Kingdom, saw clearly that only force could obtain any improvement in the conditions at Canton; and in 1830 the Court were indignant that their representatives in China should have deliberately flouted the Chinese authorities and endangered their profitable trade. As soon as the dispatches and consultations to the end of November, 1829, were received in London, the Court ordered Mr. Marjoribanks and Mr. Davis to return to China without loss of time; and, by instructions dated May 26, 1830, ordered that they should be respectively President and second member of the Select Committee, the third and fourth members being Mr. Daniell and Mr. Thomas Charles Smith, while Messrs. Baynes, Millett, and Bannerman were removed from the Committee. On November 22nd the degraded members placed on record this protestation of their loyalty and good intentions—

We receive with feelings of the deepest regret the strong expressions

of disapprobation of our proceedings pending the discussions with the Chinese Government in the past season. We bow with implicit obedience to the decision of the Hon'ble Court, and retire from the direction of the affairs with the conscientious belief that we have discharged our duty to the fullest extent of our judgment and ability and with the consolatory reflection that we have done our utmost to raise the character of the Nation, whose Representatives we have been, in the estimation of the Government and people of this Country ; and that we now leave the real interests of our Honorable Employers, and the British Trade to this Port, on a more firm and secure footing than they have hitherto attained.

On November 23rd the new Committee took charge, and on December 10th they recorded a representation, received in November from some junior members of the factory, expressing their sympathy with the degraded supercargoes, and their conviction that the right course had been followed during the preceding twelve months. This was signed by six factors—Messrs. T. C. Smith, Robinson, Hudleston, Lindsay, Ravenshaw, and Morris. Upon receiving it Mr. Marjoribanks and Mr. Davis minuted that

we cannot but condemn the principle of Members of the Factory appearing to call in question the propriety of the instructions which may be received from England.

The Court took a sterner view, and on August 3, 1831, Mr. Smith was removed from the Select Committee because of his action in signing the manifesto.

The new Committee made no change in the policy of the factory—they probably wished to avoid the appearance of retreating in the face of the enemy. On December 10th and again on the 14th they resisted appeals from the Hong Merchants to order the ladies to quit Canton—

they repeated their old plea of the persecution to which it subjected them. Among other arguments they said that when they heard of the arrival of the new Committee they had hastened joyfully to the Viceroy and told him that new Gentlemen had taken charge of the Company's affairs who would comply with his Excellency's regulations, and would it not appear they had uttered what was false unless the Committee did really shew a complying disposition ? If any thing was wanting to prove the Impolicy of yielding even this comparatively trifling Point the use of such an argument would convince us.

Meantime the persecution of the Hong Merchant Goqua continued. On November 28th the Committee heard that Wooyay

(Quintus), uncle of Goqua and manager of the firm, had been arrested and sent to the Namhoi Hien, by whom he was subjected to severe corporal punishment, and afterwards imprisoned. At his examination under torture he confessed that he had acted as agent to procure a 'devil's sedan-chair', thereby travelling outside his proper function, which was to buy the foreigners' goods and to sell them tea. The Committee warned the Hong Merchants that they would incur the displeasure of the Committee if they allowed Goqua to be singled out for vindictive punishment; but on December 18th we have the following record—

> Poor old Goqua by to-day's report has offered money for his release, but it has been rejected by the Viceroy. At the Nanhae's office they even speak of strangling him. His having got a *green* chair, a colour allowed only to the grandees, is alleged as a most treasonable act. It seems as if they had tortured the green venetians into a green chair.

There was further correspondence—petitions from the Committee, mandates from the Viceroy—each maintaining the original ground; and even, on December 29th, communication of orders from the Emperor that the foreign women must go, and that foreign merchants were forbidden to ride in chairs; but on January 1st the Viceroy declared to one of the Hong Merchants that 'the residence of English Ladies in Canton was a matter of small importance'. This confirmed the more experienced members of the Committee in their belief that all the trouble had arisen from the machinations of some among the Hong Merchants, who acted on the principle that 'the more depressed the state of Foreigners the less likely is their own responsibility to be involved'. The private English were, however, not so much inclined to leave matters as they were, and they signed a memorial to the House of Commons, sending a copy on December 28th to the Committee—

> We have the honor to enclose the copy of a Petition which we have felt ourselves called upon to address to the House of Commons, at the present juncture, praying for the adoption of some measures which may tend to ameliorate the humiliating condition of British subjects, in common with other foreigners in China—a condition equally injurious to national character, as adverse to the extension of British Commerce, for which this great Empire presents so wide a field, if freed from the

obstructions occasioned by the corrupt administration of the Local Authorities of Canton.

The Committee note that this 'bears the signature of nearly every respectable British subject in China unconnected with the Factory', but it is to be observed that the names, headed as they are by a Jardine and a Matheson, do not include any one connected with the firm of Thos. Dent & Co.

In 1813 the Company's charter had been renewed for twenty years, and in 1833 it was to be renewed, or modified, or annulled. By the charter of 1813 the trade between England and China was forbidden to British subjects, and, in so far as Parliament and the Government could order, was made a monopoly of the Company. There were now many persons interested in obtaining access to this trade: English manufacturers who saw in the Chinese Empire a pool capable of absorbing vast quantities of their products; English shipowners who were now shut out from a whole ocean; British subjects generally who were debarred from a trade which was open to Americans and to all others who were not British; and there was agitation in England, in India, and at Canton. A sense of impending abolition of the Company's monopoly reached even to Canton, and interested tongues had carried the news to the ears of the Hong Merchants. They addressed the Viceroy on the impending change, pointing out that, of other nationalities, the ships and merchants worked for their individual benefit, but that the British trade was under the sole control of the Kung-pan-ya (Public-managed Office), also called the Kung-sze (Public Corporation), whose affairs were administered by a Select Committee with a Chief at their head. All British subjects were under their control, including those from India—

> If they make any disturbance or commit any irregularity, they also are under the control of the Chief; it is in consequence of all affairs thus reverting to his single responsibility, that for a long period of time there has been mutual tranquillity.

The merchants had now heard that in the 13th year of Taokwang the Company was coming to an end; but the trade would continue in smaller ships, with merchants free from all control—

> If they trade individually, affairs will not be subject to one control, and if not under one control, responsibility will be nowhere.

In any one year there were fifty to sixty ships from England and India, manned by several thousand sailors of a fierce and intractable disposition,

and unless they be under the government and restraint of some individual, there is a great probability of opposition to, and violation of, Government orders, and if this should lead to the cutting off of the trade, where will be the advantage to public affairs?

The merchants dared not allow matters to drift to the abyss, and they advised the Viceroy to

condescend to confer an Edict enjoining the Nation's Chief Marjoribanks to send a Letter home to communicate it to his Nation's King, that if hereafter that Nation's Company be dissolved, there will as heretofore be appointed a Chief to come to Canton to have the general management of the affairs of that Nation's foreign Merchants and ships which come to Canton. If no such Chief come to Canton, there will be no concentrated responsibility; and, if that Nation's Country Ships and foreign Merchants come to Canton to trade, the ships being many and the men not few, in the event of any silly foolish ignorant opposition to and violation of the Commands of Government, after all who will be responsible?

The laws of China were strict and did not admit of the least infraction; and if the foreign community had a head to assume responsibility, then it might be hoped that the commerce of foreigners would go on tranquilly, and that there would be no evasion of the requirements of law. The Viceroy answered by a mandate of January 16th, saying that the report of the dissolution of the Company appeared to be only rumour; the merchants were to inquire, and if they found it was true, they were then to instruct the English Chief in the way that they had recommended. On this mandate, when it was brought to them, the Committee record their opinion—

The Merchants themselves have always spoken in unmeasured terms of alarm, of the rumored possibility of numerous ships arriving here subject to no effectual control and unconnected by any bond of union; they acknowledge that viewing it merely in a commercial point of view such an event would be highly advantageous to them as by combination among themselves they might dictate their own Prices to unconnected and separate adventurers, but what causes their fears is the encreased probability of affrays and disturbances for which they would be held responsible although possessed by no means of preventing them.

On January 24th the merchants came to the factory in a body to hand to the Committee a letter addressed to the Court of

Directors, in which they said they had ' expressed their confidence and high satisfaction of the mode in which both Political and Commercial Affairs had been hitherto conducted and their hopes that no change might take place '. As the cover was sealed, the Committee were obliged to decline to transmit it ; but the next day it was brought open and was then entered upon the records. In it the merchants expressed to the Court the same apprehensions that they had expressed to the Viceroy ; they hoped that the Company's charter would be renewed on the old basis—

> It is not so well to find a remedy when the evil occurs as previously to guard against it. We again and a fourth time have considered the subject and only wish that after the Hon'ble Company's three years are completed, it will as of old be re-established, and that all affairs will still be managed according to the old regulations that you and we may enjoy mutual tranquillity. Not only will Commercial affairs be easily transacted, but should it occur that Political questions arise, still as heretofore there will be the Hon'ble Company to grasp them with a master's hand.

IMPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1830. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Woollens	2,306,265	170,572	2,476,837	421,450	12,000	..
Cotton Manufactures	231,000	110,929	341,929	359,179	..	..
Metals	144,650	50,254	194,904	676,490 [1]	..	..
Furs	..	6,650	6,650	78,471	..	..
Other Western Products	..	..	..	206,166 [2]	..	..
Western Products	2,681,915	338,405	3,020,320	1,741,756	12,000	4,774,076
Cotton	1,832,197	3,796,288	5,628,485	39,252	..	..
Opium	..	12,222,525	12,222,525	806,820	1,931,350	..
Sandalwood	..	144,300	144,300	39,000	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	79,110	79,110	..	32,400	..
Pepper	..	88,557	88,557	31,759	4,900	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	623,417	623,417	212,734	55,935	..
Eastern Produce	1,832,197	17,054,237	18,886,434	1,129,565	2,024,585	22,040,584
Total Goods	4,514,112	17,392,642	21,906,754	2,871,321	2,036,585	26,814,660
Silver	..	55,000	55,000	183,655 [3]	16,700	255,355
Total Imports	4,514,112	17,447,642	21,961,754	3,054,976	2,053,285 [4]	27,070,015

[1] Including quicksilver, 5,644 piculs, 395,080 dollars.
[2] Including ginseng, 1,934 piculs, 109,544 dollars.
[3] And in addition bills to the amount of 1,168,500 dollars.
[4] Portuguese, 1,881,350 dollars (opium); the rest Dutch.

EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1830. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	British. Company.	British. British.	British. Total.	American.	Other Flags.	Total.
Ships: Number	22	50	72	25	12	109
Tonnage	28,513	26,427	54,940	10,000	8,400	73,340
Exports:						
Tea	7,757,103	673,880	8,430,983	2,014,402	106,000	..
Raw Silk	..	1,567,920	1,567,920	85,500	39,900	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	465,195	465,195	1,644,952 [1]	116,640	..
Nankeens	..	536,616	536,616	80,944	..	..
Tutenague	..	19,200	19,200	..	..	..
Sugar	..	952,520	952,520	27,000	..	..
Other Commodities	..	1,077,140	1,077,140	410,753	26,700	..
Total Goods	7,757,103	5,292,471	13,049,574	4,263,551	289,240	17,602,365
Silver	1,910,936	4,684,370	6,595,306	..	..	6,595,306
	9,668,039	9,976,841	19,644,880	4,263,551	289,240	24,197,671
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	119,015					
Factory Expenses	148,804	286,000	801,819	81,000	10,000	..
Ship Expenses	248,000					
	515,819	286,000	801,819	81,000	10,000	892,819
Cost of Investment	10,183,858	10,262,841	20,446,699	4,344,551	299,240 [2]	25,090,490

[1] Including sewing silk, 148,680 dollars.
[2] Trade by Dutch ships only.

DISTRIBUTION OF EXPORTS FROM CANTON, UNDER THE AMERICAN FLAG, SEASON 1830

			Dollars.	Dollars.
To UNITED STATES:				
Tea	Piculs	38,135	1,386,072	
Raw Silk	,,	285	85,500	
Sewing Silk	,,	354	148,680	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	262,107	1,496,272	
Nankeens	,,	118,750	76,394	
Sugar	Piculs	3,000	27,000	
Cassia Bark	,,	1,828	21,936	
Matting	Rolls	600	3,000	
Sundries	Value	..	111,697	
				3,356,551
To EUROPE:				
Tea	Piculs	16,251	628,330	
Nankeens	Pieces	7,000	4,550	
Cassia Bark	Piculs	635	7,620	
Sundries	Value	..	9,500	
				650,000
To SOUTH AMERICA, SANDWICH ISLANDS, ETC.				257,000
Total				4,263,551

STATEMENT OF THE OPIUM TRADE AT CANTON, APRIL, 1830, TO MARCH, 1831

	Bengal. Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	*Total.* Chests.
In hand, April 1, 1830	1,126	1,586	..	2,712
Imports: British	6,327	11,131	243	17,701
American	..	..	1,428	1,428
Portuguese	1,150	1,500	..	2,650
	8,603	14,217	1,671	24,491
Deliveries	6,660	12,100	1,671	20,431
In hand, March 31, 1831	1,943	2,117	..	4,060
Market prices in dollars:				
Highest	1,050	760	738	
Lowest	790	400	565	

THE COURT'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE INVESTMENT TO BE PROVIDED IN INDIA AND CHINA FOR THE SEASON 1830–1

	£	£
Bengal Investment: for England: Piece Goods	69,600	
Raw Silk	812,000	
Saltpetre	30,450	
Sugar	167,040	
Indigo	464,000	
	1,543,090	
for China: Cotton	145,648	
		1,688,738
Madras Investment: for China: Cotton	..	82,285
Bombay Investment: for China: Cotton	..	195,862
India and China: for Cape of Good Hope	..	10,000
China Investment: for England: Tea	1,827,000	
for Halifax: Tea	39,250	
		1,866,250
Total Estimated Commercial Disbursements in India and China in 1830–1		3,843,135

THE COURT'S ESTIMATE OF FUNDS FOR THE PROVISION OF THE INVESTMENTS, SEASON 1830–1

	£	£
Political Charges in England, May, 1829–April, 1830, including Pay Office demands	..	1,915,634
Cost and Charges of Military and Public Stores	242,968	
Marine Stores	24,813	
Stationery	20,000	
		287,781
		2,203,415
Sale of Europe Goods in three Presidencies	46,400	
China	730,736	
		777,136
Sale of Company's Cotton in China:		
Bombay, 49,140 piculs	147,420	
Bengal, 33,750 ,,	101,250	
Madras, 13,500 ,,	40,500	
		289,170
To be paid by Commanders into Canton Treasury:		
Bombay Cotton, 6 ships	78,149	
Bengal ,, 5 ,,	57,972	
Madras ,, 2 ,,	32,023	
		168,144
To be paid into Canton Treasury for Certificates		100,000
Estimate of Commercial Funds in India and China		3,537,865
Deficiency in Season 1830–1		305,270
		3,843,135

LXXXIX

OBSTRUCTION AT MACAO: OPIUM AT LINTIN, 1831

In the season 1831 the Select Committee consisted of Mr. C. Marjoribanks (President), Mr. J. F. Davis, Mr. J. N. Daniell, and Mr. T. C. Smith; but Mr. Smith was removed from the Committee on August 3rd. Mr. Marjoribanks was compelled by ill health to leave for England on January 17, 1832, Mr. Davis then succeeding to the presidency; and, being duly empowered thereto, Messrs. Davis and Daniell then invited Mr. Charles Millett to take the third place from January 18th. The books were opened on January 11, 1831, with the following balances:

		Tls.	Tls.
Cr. by Silver in treasury, 34,025 dollars			24,498
Teak timber (imported) in stock			4,582
Tea in stock, 209 piculs			5,649
Factory account			20,935
Dead stock (22,694), H.C. Sloop (11,475)			34,169
			89,833
Dr. to Merchants:	Howqua	59,870	
	Mowqua	73,233	
	Puankhequa	39,261	
	Goqua	176,162	
	Kinqua	21,467	
	Fatqua	22,947	
	Chung Wo	31,850	
	Heng Tae	14,750	
	Shun Tae	53,922	
			493,462
	Debit balance		403,629

It is to be observed that the debts due from Thos. Beale and Chunqua have disappeared from the account.

During the season the Company loaded with tea for London 23 ships of 28,282 tons builder's measurement, and for Quebec and Halifax 2 ships of 1,337 tons, a total of 25 ships and 29,619 tons. The treasury was supplied from the following sources:

		Dollars.	Dollars.
Sale of Imports :	English products, Tls. 1,871,543 =	. .	2,599,366
	Indian cotton, Tls. 783,582 = .	. .	1,088,308
Bills on Bengal :	exch. 204 and 30 days .	. .	4,653,512
	,, 202 ,, .	. .	371,121
Bills on London :	exch. 4*s.* 2½*d.* and 6 months	. .	137,843
	salaries of staff, £10,300 .	. .	48,950
Certificates to commanders and officers .		. .	179,732
Cotton bonds of commanders .		. .	299,862
			9,378,694
Deduct :	Debit balance at opening, Tls. 403,629 =	560,596	
	Bullion shipped to London . . .	1,173,957	
			1,734,553
	Net sum available	. .	7,644,141

The value of transfers in favour of the Hong Merchants was 3,585,074 dollars.

The Company's investments were invoiced as follows :

	Tls.
Tea for London	5,442,129
,, Quebec	290,854
,, Halifax	47,907
,, Cape of Good Hope . .	20,887
,, Indian ports . . .	12,931
,, St. Helena . . .	4,675
	5,819,383 = 8,082,476 dollars.

The principal features of the trade at Canton were as follows.

	Ships.		*Cotton.*	*Tea.*	*Raw Silk.*	*Silk Piece Goods.*	*Nankeens.*
	No.	Tonnage.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Pieces.
English :							
Company .	25	29,619	91,862	237,517 [1]	..	..	1,000
Private .	68	31,779	351,206	23,971 [2]	8,451 [3]	49,500	315,500
American .	41	16,400	170	83,876 [4]	109	268,677	122,285
Dutch . .	12	6,000	..	..	..	..	..
French . .	1	600	..	..	..	..	..
Prussian .	1	600	..	..	..	..	..
	148	84,998	443,238	345,364	8,560	318,177	438,785

Tonnage estimated of all except British ships.

[1] Tea, 226,523 piculs to London ; 9,575 piculs to British North America, 1,419 elsewhere.

[2] Tea, 15,245 piculs to London ; 8,726 piculs to India.

[3] Raw silk, Nanking, 6,283 piculs ; Canton, 2,168 piculs ; average value, Nanking, 368 dollars ; Canton, 158 dollars per picul.

[4] To United States, 81,156 piculs ; to Europe, 2,720 piculs.

In addition to the above shipping there were 7 entries of 2 Danish ships plying between Whampoa and Manila; 34 entries of Spanish vessels plying between Macao and Manila; and 19 of Portuguese, one laden for Lisbon, the rest trading from Macao to Damán, Goa, and other Eastern ports. Of the 68 English country ships, 32 are noted as having entered no farther than Lintin; of 33 American ships, 11 remained at Lintin. The British barque *Red Rover* arrived at Macao from Calcutta on February 6, 1831, 'having effected her passage against the strength of the Monsoon in the singularly short period of 39 days'.

The census of foreign residents, outside the English Company and other than Portuguese, on January 28, 1831, was as follows:

ENGLISH MERCHANTS:

Firm of Magniac & Co.		
William Jardine	James Matheson	
Francis Hollingworth	Thomas Chay Beale	
Alexander Matheson	Henry Robinson	
Henry Wright		
Firm of Thomas Dent & Co.		
Launcelot Dent	Thomas Allport	
Robert Inglis	Robert Wilkinson	
Firm of Ilberry, Fearon & Co.		
Christopher Fearon	— Ilberry	
Joseph Henry		
Firm of Whiteman & Co.		
John C. Whiteman	Richard Brown	
— Harton		
Firm of Turner & Co.		
Richard Turner	A. P. Boyd	
Unattached:		
James Innes	George Chinnery, Portrait Painter	
John Gover	Leonard Just, Watchmaker	
Thomas Beale	Richard Markwick, Shopkeeper	
Alexander Grant	Charles Markwick, ,,	
Daniel Manson	Robert Edwards, ,,	
William Haylett	Edward Lane, ,,	
John Morrison		32

PARSEES:

21 Merchants, 5 Clerks, 15 Servants 41

AMERICANS :

Charles Talbot, Consular Agent		
— Cushing	J. Sturgis	
Samuel Russell	Samuel Sturgis	
William H. Low	Jabez Jenkins	
Augustine Heard	Oliver Gordon	
Philip Ammidon	John Forbes	
Samuel Archer	Charles W. King	
Daniel Aborn	J. R. Latimer	
James Blight	William Hunter	
William Tufts	— Pitman	
Rev. E. C. Bridgman	Dr. James Bradford	21

DUTCH :

S. Van Basel, Acting Consul	— Vandermeulen	3
— Bletterman		

FRENCH :

— Gernaert, Consul	— Bovet, Watchmaker	2

SPANISH :

Gabriel de Yeureta Goyena	Pedro de Sagarzurieta	
Joachim Ybar		3

SWEDISH :

Sir Andrew Ljungstedt	— Ullman	2

With 20 in the English Company's factory, this makes a total of 83 European, and 124 foreign, residents other than Portuguese.

At the close of the previous season the Hong Merchants had undertaken to liquidate the affairs of Chunqua's firm, and at the Chinese New Year had paid to the foreign creditors 199,068 dollars. A further payment of 100,000 dollars was due at the end of the 4th moon, but was not paid. The creditors then appealed to the Governor, who bade them to be patient and not to bother him with petitions ; and on September 28th

We learn from Canton that the responsible partner for Chunqua's Hong a few days ago hanged himself in a fit of desperation. His elder brother quitted Canton in the summer and returned to Nanking Province, and it is very generally believed in possession of considerable wealth leaving his unfortunate younger brother to bear the whole weight and responsibility of the Foreign Debts. He had been for some time in confinement in the City and it was anticipated would shortly be

banished to Ele, but he preferred terminating his own existence, thus forming the second instance of suicide in a Hong Merchant within the short space of six months.

Earlier in the year the Committee had written to remind the Viceroy of his promise to appoint additional Hong Merchants, and he had asked petulantly if they thought he could evolve them or could appoint them when they did not exist.

There was a considerable degree of simmering in the Committee in consequence of the drastic action of the Court of Directors. Mr. Baynes from his position of President was put off the Committee, and at the end of October found his health so much impaired that, on his application, he was allowed to return to England. Mr. Smith, for his indiscretion in signing a protest against the Court's decision, was removed from the Committee at the beginning of August, and in November, in accordance with his intention previously announced, he returned to England. On the reappointment of Mr. Millet to the Committee in January, 1832, it then became his duty to read the records, and he protested strongly against the assertion of the Committee in writing to the Court, that the action of the Fuyuen in May, 1831, was due to the irritation caused by the acts of the preceding Committee,[1] and that the old Committee were trying to renew amongst the members of the factory a spirit of factious opposition to the new Committee and the Court of Directors. The position was galling: juniors (Mr. Davis and Mr. Daniell) had been placed in authority over seniors (Mr. Baynes and Mr. Millett); but Mr. Millett repudiated all idea of intrigue or insubordination and assured the Committee and the Court of Directors that the members of the old Committee were as loyal as their successors.

In disposing of the woollens the Committee were compelled to accept a reduction in the price, as follows:

	Previous season.	*Current season.*
Broadcloth, Superfine, per yard . . .	Tls. 1·30	Tls. 1·20
Supers, ,, . . .	,, 0·90	,, 0·85
Worsters, ,, . . .	,, 0·80	,, 0·80
Long Ells, per piece	,, 5·50	,, 5·40
Camlets, ,, ...	Doll. 19·00	Doll. 19·00

[1] Cf. *postea*, pp. 279, 301.

At the end of November Messrs. Whiteman & Co. offered 45 dollars a picul for cotton yarn, 5 dollars a piece for calicoes, and 24 dollars a piece for camlets, on condition that the goods should be transhipped to a vessel of theirs outside the Bogue, i. e. at Lintin ; and the Committee ordered that the imports of these goods, to a value of 72,240 dollars, to arrive by the *Winchelsea*, should be so transhipped previous to the *Winchelsea* entering the river.

The Hong Merchants were at the same time desirous of increasing the prices to be paid for teas, but this the Committee resisted and engagements were made at the old appreciation. The Court had required that no more contracts should be made.

> We are of opinion that no necessity exists for any written Deed of Contract between ourselves and the Hong Merchants as it sometimes admits of evasion to the advantage of the latter, while the Company, from the strict principle, on which its commercial transactions are conducted, could not without a breach of faith release itself from the engagement, but we at the same time believe that a knowledge which can be relied on that his Teas will be received at a remunerating price will alone induce the Hong Merchant to exert himself to procure them of a good quality and to make those advances to the Tea Merchants which are essential to their production. The last mentioned class of persons have not themselves sufficient capital to purchase in the provinces the large quantities of Teas annually brought down to the Canton Market, but depend chiefly on the Hong Merchants for advances of money, (which they in their turn frequently borrow at 12 per cent interest from foreign agents in Canton) to enable them to procure what are called Contract Teas. From the refuse of these the Winter Teas are made in a considerable degree.

The contract then had been dropped, and for it was substituted the engagement, under which each merchant was informed of the number of chests which would probably be required from him at the standard appreciation. On January 30, 1831, the Committee, making their calculations for the next season, out of a total of

	lb.
29,025,000 lb. of all kinds, found that of Congou they required	17,525,295
while of winter Congous they had in stock	6,995,500
Leaving to be provided by new teas	10,529,795

or about 124,000 chests. The following table shows in the first column the quantities for which engagements were entered into with the merchants in January, while the last three columns

show the quantities which, up to the end of the following October, had been weighed and examined:

	Engagements.	*Weighings to end of October.*		
		Contract quality.	*Below contract.*	*Total.*
	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.
Howqua	20,000	29,826	9,376	39,202
Mowqua	15,000	24,400	7,800	32,200
Puankhequa	15,000	18,666	4,456	23,122
Goqua	15,000	17,604	9,990	27,594
Kinqua	10,000	13,565	8,674	22,239
Fatqua	8,000	5,102	6,090	11,192
Hengtae	6,500	7,466	4,972	12,438
Chungwo	9,000	9,950	5,590	15,540
Shuntae	8,000	10,542	3,750	14,292
Yunwo	4,500	3,160	3,100	6,260
Total	111,000	140,281	63,798	204,079

The prices of the Congou of contract quality ranged from Tls. 25 to Tls. 29 per picul; the winter teas from those rejected as below contract quality, were bought at Tls. 18, 19, and 20.

The Committee received into its treasury a total of 9,378,694 dollars. Of this sum 3,687,674 dollars came from the sale of imports to merchants, who had to receive larger sums for the supply of teas; but the balance, 5,691,020 dollars, came in specie for bills, certificates, and bonds. The American ships were now bringing more in bills, while the British ships were sending away larger amounts in silver, partly the proceeds of greatly increased quantities of opium, partly to supply the Court of Directors with funds which the Committee had now to send by almost every Indiaman to London.

During the season the export of silver was as follows:

	Dollar silver.	*Sycee.*	*Total.*
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
To England	1,134,623	842,307	1,976,930
To Indian ports	1,301,868	693,015	1,994,883
	2,436,491	1,535,322	3,971,813

This export was entirely on British account—Company, English private merchants, or Parsee merchants—and the sycee was taken on board at Lintin, or as the ships passed Lintin or Macao Road. The bills on London and the certificates were issued entirely to British subjects; and the bills on Bengal were issued,

so far as they can be identified, to persons of the following nationalities :

	Dollars.
English private (agency)	3,006,315
Parsee merchants	435,773
American (agency)	501,850
Portuguese (opium)	610,957
Spanish (from Manila for investment) . .	364,644
Dutch (accommodation)	15,000
Total	4,934,539

The Committee found it increasingly difficult to find the silver to provide for their purchases of tea, and to meet the demands of the Court of Directors in London, which now amounted to two million dollars at least in the year.

One of the main causes for this deficiency is the great scarcity of Dollars in Canton during the present Season, which is a natural result of the extensive Bullion remittances which have been made during the last few years from China, without any corresponding influx of Dollars into the country, and to the Chinese having hitherto obstinately refused to receive any Dollars excepting those of the old Spanish Coinage which since the Independence of the Colonies, have been yearly decreasing in Quantity. The only remedy applicable in this case was to devise some mode, by which Sycee Silver might become available to meet the exigencies of our Treasury. We at one time thought of receiving it openly into our Treasury and making it available for the payment of the Merchants balances, on their agreeing to allow the same Premium which had been paid by us, but this Plan failed owing to the apprehensions of the Hong Merchants, who declared to us that the Officers of Government, always on the watch for the slightest pretext for extortion, would turn this transaction (although perfectly legal) into a plea for constant Persecution, merely because Opium was generally connected with Sycee Payments.

The Committee could not receive sycee into its treasury, but, by a roundabout way, they were enabled to ship a considerable quantity to London. The two firms of Magniac & Co. and Thos. Dent & Co. evolved a plan

which we cannot explain more clearly, than by stating that we have this day [November 15th] received a letter from Messrs. Magniac & Co. by which they tender to place sealed Boxes containing the sum of 9,000 Tales of Sycee Silver on board any of the H.C. Ships passing by Lintin, which sum at the current premium of 5½ per Cent equals Spanish Dolls. 13,224 for which they request bills may be granted on the Supreme Government [Calcutta] ; Messrs. Magniac & Co. further guarantee that

the said sum shall realise in London, a sum equal to that for which bills are granted, and have enclosed a Letter to Messrs. Fairlie & Bonham, directing them to make up any deficiency should such appear. . . . We shall for the present confine the transaction to these two Houses, feeling satisfied that their high character and credit render their guarantee for the value of the Bullion shipped as perfectly satisfactory.

A month earlier the Committee had recorded that they were aware that their disappointment in their expectations had been

mainly owing to the present stagnation of the Opium Trade (supposed to be the result of increased vigilance on the part of the Government) but it has likewise come to our knowledge that the price of Silver has risen in India.

They accordingly raised their rate from 202 sicca rupees per 100 Spanish dollars to 204, and whereas at the lower rate they had obtained only 371,121 dollars, at the increased rate they received first and last a total of 4,653,512 dollars.

The principal source from which this silver was drawn was the proceeds of sale of opium. The ships carrying opium were now anchored regularly at Lintin, and occasionally, during the south-west monsoon, at Nine Islands or Kumsingmoon; and there they not only delivered their imported opium and took in the equally prohibited sycee, but they seized the opportunity to import or export dutiable commodities without the formality of reporting them to the Customs. Frequently during each season the Hoppo sent his mandate to the Hong Merchants directing them to order a named ship either to enter the river or to sail away to its own country. Such a mandate would begin with a reminder of the standing prohibition—

Heretofore the foreign Ships of various nations which came to Canton to trade were guided by pilots to Whampoa, anchoring in any other place being prohibited; but of late years foreign Ships have continually anchored at the Nine Islands and Lintin—Indian Ships, Americans, Danes, and Manila Vessels in large numbers, have passed years and months, moving and anchoring, going and coming. Repeatedly have orders been issued to the Hong Merchants to communicate the orders of Government to the respective Nation's Chiefs requiring them to compel the vessels to quit the port, and an official request was made to the Viceroy to order the civil and military authorities to effect a rigorous expulsion; but all these foreign vessels continue at anchor as usual, with insolent haughtiness disobeying. Some of them are connected with traitorous Natives, and linked on with foreign Merchants resident in

Canton, who are continually conveying clandestinely contraband goods out of the port—and I have heard that at Macao, in an underhand way, American and Spanish anchor, and have smuggling transactions with the ships at Lintin, receiving from Canton Cassia and other goods and by stealth conveying them out of the Port and thereby evading the duties.

The Hoppo then goes on to state that the pilots report the arrival of a certain Indian ship, which audaciously refuses to enter the river ; that the English Chief is to be instructed to order her away ; that the Portuguese headman (Governor) is to receive the same orders for Macao ; that the Chinese Customs at Macao and the Tsotang were to take energetic action ; that the naval authorities were forthwith to expel the ship ; and

besides taking these steps I hereby order the Hong Merchants to communicate forthwith orders to all the foreign Chiefs immediately to compel all the foreign vessels anchored at Lintin, to quit the Port, and let an answer be returned shewing the manner in which this order has been obeyed. Oppose not. A special mandate.

These mandates sound terrifying, but no one paid any attention to them, not even the naval or the Customs officials who were required to carry out the orders ; the Committee most generally pigeon-holed them—

June 5. We this day received through the Merchants two Edicts from the Hoppo respecting Ships anchored at Lintin. We do not record them as they are literal repetitions of the Edict recorded [as above] on the 9th of May.

The explanation of this show of activity—in the form of mandates and proclamations, which were placed on record and could be quoted—is to be found in the fact that Lintin had come to the ears of the Emperor. In a dispatch [1] from the Künki Chu to the Viceroy and Governor, they are informed that the Emperor has received an exact account of the method by which foreign opium, bought and paid for in Canton, is delivered at Lintin into *faehae* (fast crabs) and so transported south as far as Hainan, and north to Amoy and even to Tientsin ; and the Emperor, impressed by the fact that opium is a flowing poison in degree immense, calls upon the Viceroy and Governor to examine into the facts and cut the evil off at its source. This seems to have stirred the

[1] Cf. Appendix AA.

officials to some degree of activity, for a week later, on September 1st, we find recorded—

> Private accounts from Canton inform us that an active prosecution has been commenced by the Fooyuen's orders against the Opium Brokers, several of whom have been put in prison, and report says that one of the leading men has been twice subjected to Torture, in order to compel him to confess his connection with the Opium Trade, and name his associates, but that he has persisted in denying the charge and in representing himself as a Salt Merchant. Considerable alarm and uncertainty prevails in consequence among all the Chinese dealers in this article who appear in some doubt as to whether the affair can be compromised as usual by a Bribe.

It took five months for the Viceroy to complete his inquiries and on February 9, 1832, as the season was about to close, to send his mandate to the Hong Merchants for communication to the principal opium agents in Canton. The Hong Merchants were commanded

> to expostulate with earnestness and persuade the barbarians of the several nations, telling them that hereafter, when coming to Canton to trade, they must not on any account bring Opium concealed in the Ship's hold, nor appoint vessels to be Opium depots at Lintin, in the outside ocean, hoping there to sell it by stealth. If they dare intentionally to disobey, the moment it is discovered, positively shall the said barbarian Ship have her hatches sealed, her selling and buying put a stop to, and an expulsion immediately be inflicted driving her away to her own Country. This affair is a strict interdict respectfully received from Imperial Authority, and the Hong Merchants must honestly exert their utmost efforts to persuade to a total cutting off of the clandestine introduction of Opium dirt. Let there not be the least trifling or carelessness, for if opium be again allowed to enter the interior it will involve them in serious criminality. Oppose not.

The new conditions of trade—the great influx of English and American merchants, and the transfer of the opium trade from Macao to Lintin—inflicted great loss on the Portuguese, who were driven to hostile methods to obtain some compensation; the Government at Lisbon were even so short-sighted as to imagine that, by restricting the number of English and Americans privileged to sojourn at Macao, they would *pro tanto* increase the profits of the Portuguese merchants. The local officials hoped, further, that they might make up some part of their lost emoluments, fees, and perquisites, by levying on the English and

Americans, whose habit it was to do their own taxing of themselves.

Mr. John C. Whiteman, head of the new firm of Whiteman & Co., came to Canton for the first time in 1830, and, having no house in Macao, he took his wife with him into the factories at Canton. The Chinese authorities protested, as they had against the presence of Mrs. Baynes, but they did not proceed to extremities, and Mrs. Whiteman remained to the close of the season. Proceeding to Macao on February 11th, Mr. Whiteman entered into occupation of a house rented from the San Jozé College, for which the permission of the Governor, Senhor João Cabral de Estifique, had been previously obtained. An officer came giving some orders that were not understood ; but from the Governor himself he learned the next day that he was commanded to leave Macao. He at once appealed to the Select Committee—

> as the resident Member in China of the Canton firm of Whiteman & Co. and a British Merchant, it is quite necessary (from Great Britain having no Possession in China, and under the exclusive system of the Chinese, as regards Families living in Canton) to have protection and safety from molestation of my Family in Macao (where alone the Chinese admit the permanent residence of Foreigners) so long as I conduct myself with courtesy and propriety during my residence.

Mr. Marjoribanks met the Governor the next day and was informed that the orders given to Mr. Whiteman could not be relaxed, since the most explicit instructions had been received from Lisbon to prevent the residence of private English merchants in Macao, adding that the interference of British merchants had been destructive of the prosperity of the colony. To this the President replied that

> a more liberal Policy on the part of the Predecessors of His Excellency might have averted the evils complained of—that the Opium Trade by restrictive regulations had been driven from Macao, and had in consequence been established at Lintin. (Indeed during the past season one Portuguese Ship the *Don Manoel* had arrived from and sailed to Bombay without entering the Port of Macao, much to the annoyance and in defiance of the orders of the Portuguese Government.)

On the subject of the pretensions of the Portuguese authorities the Committee were outspoken in writing to the Governor-

General, Lord William Cavendish Bentinck, which they did at once—

Being most anxious to avoid all controversy with the insignificant and powerless authorities of this place (in writing in unreserved confidence to Your Excellency we make use of those terms which are descriptive of the Portuguese Government of Macao but with no wish to treat it unnecessarily in a corresponding manner) the President had this morning an interview with the Governor who read to him distinct and positive instructions from the Government of Don Miguel prohibiting in future the residence of all private foreign, including British, merchants in Macao, who had not previous permission obtained from the Court of Lisbon. He requested that we should give public notice to this effect, which we shall do and in the mean time communicate the same to the Court of Directors. In deference the Governor stated to our wishes he would in the interim suspend the execution of the orders which he had received. . . . Your Lordship is already aware that Macao is virtually under Chinese and not under Portuguese dominion, the former exercising power, the latter incapable of affording protection. The right of Government is claimed by both parties, but possessed by one. We shall however in the spirit of amicable courtesy, pursue the system of forbearance as long as it is possible, and we only hope that we may not be compelled by the future proceedings of the Portuguese Authorities, to disclaim their right of interference and to set them at one side altogether.

Lord William Bentinck had received a snub when he wrote to the Captain-General at Goa complaining of the refusal of the Governor of Macao to recognize any representative character in the Select Committee; and he now wrote asserting in the plainest terms the right of British subjects to reside in Macao—

The Island of Macao is the spot set apart by the Imperial Government of China for the residence of Foreigners resorting to that Empire for Trade, and it is the only place available for the purpose to the Merchants of all European Nations. In this state of things Your Excellency will excuse me if I submit that those who feel themselves vested with the Charge of the British Interests in this part of the World, will be entitled to regard the attempt to exclude British persons from this allotted part of China, except under specific license from Authorities in Lisbon, as a most unfriendly act and as warranting any measures of prevention against the injurious consequences to British Trade that might possibly result. Your Excellency will not expect us to concede to the Portuguese Government at Lisbon the right of determining whether British subjects shall be allowed to reside and trade in the Imperial dominion of China; so long therefore as the conditions under which that Trade is carried on are maintained by the Imperial Government on their present footing

and Macao is the place allotted for the residence of those who conduct the Trade, Your Excellency must be prepared for the assertion on our part of a right to reside, and unless the Select Committee at the head of the British Factory at China shall themselves make concessions in this respect, I shall be prepared to support them in asserting the right, and shall not feel justified in submitting to any innovation upon it except under specific orders from my superiors in Europe.

The Captain-General replied that he had already submitted to his Government at Lisbon a proposal that the new orders should be abrogated, and that he would write to the Governor of Macao asking him to continue his suspension of their execution ; but on the subject of Portuguese sovereignty over Macao he took a very strong stand, asserting that Portugal held Macao by right of conquest.

The small Peninsula of Macao has not for ages been nor now is, a dominion of the Empire of China, but is a Territory and Colony belonging to the Crown of Portugal for three hundred years. It was not obtained as a favor or concession from the Emperor of China to that Crown, but acquired by right of conquest which the Portuguese arms then achieved of that colony and of nearly the whole Island of Ancam, in one of the extremities of which the small Peninsula of Macao is situated, a great part of which Island was, at that period, in the possession of a powerful potentate, who after a vigorous resistance was subdued, the Island conquered, and the victors subjects of the Crown of Portugal, put in possession of it, after having cleared the adjacent seas of the Pirates and Insurgents who were injuring and destroying the commerce and navigation of China. It was subsequent to the occupation of the Island that the Portuguese constructed at Macao a variety of large Houses, similar to those in Europe, a Cathedral, two parochial Churches, two Colleges, a Convent of Nuns, a Charitable Institution, and latterly fortified the City with four fortresses and two forts which exist to this day, stationed therein a military garrison, and appointed, for the administration of the Affairs of the City, Ecclesiastical, Civil, and Military Functionaries. . . . Such is the brief history of the manner in which we acquired the above Colony and our Establishments therein, it rests moreover on tradition that notwithstanding the right of conquest by which the Portuguese came to the possession of the Colony, yet with a view to greater security, they demanded a confirmation of that possession from the Emperor, who informed of the benefits which the Portuguese had imparted to his subjects by delivering them from the cruelties of the pirates, not only complied with their application, but with a view to invite them to settle permanently in that quarter, both he and his successors granted them great privileges, exemptions and liberties. Under the above circumstances, it is manifest that the Imperial Govern-

ment of China cannot dispose of a dominion which does not appertain to it, but to the Crown of Portugal, as well by the right of conquest, as by the long possession and occupancy of three centuries; and that in the Portuguese Royal Territory in question, the subjects of other nations cannot reside except by virtue of the Sacred Rights of hospitality or of Treaties entered into with the Portuguese Supreme Government, more particularly as after the Port of Canton had been opened by the Imperial Government of China to European nations for the benefit of their commerce, Macao was reserved to the Portuguese and Spaniards of Manilla.

In reply Lord William Cavendish Bentinck begged Don Manoel de Portugal e Castro to accept his acknowledgement of the liberal and considerate spirit in which his communication had been received; but he made no rejoinder to His Excellency's historical essay beyond stating that the whole correspondence would be sent to England,

in order that the Government of His Britannic Majesty may be prepared to resume the discussion with that of His Most Faithful Majesty in case of the question being further agitated in Europe.

Other disputes with the Portuguese during the season were of a trivial character. On July 1st the Company's cutter entering Macao harbour did not anchor when hailed from the fort, and was then boarded by a Portuguese officer and soldiers, who seized a Portuguese servant, put him in chains, and carried him off. The Governor, when appealed to, said that the order was given because it had been reported to him that the Company's cutter had a short time before conveyed (smuggled) two chests of opium from Lintin to Macao. The Committee indignantly repudiated the idea that their boat had engaged in smuggling, and the Governor was forced to accept their assurance and released the servant. Only three weeks later the same thing happened to Mr. Boyd's boat, on which a lascar was arrested; whereupon the Committee wrote officially to the Governor, and receiving no reply wrote then to the Dezembargador. The Governor then replied upholding the right of the Portuguese authorities to establish their own laws and regulations. Two days later the lascar was released.

With the Chinese at Canton and at Lintin there were some small disputes. On March 15, 1831,

a small Chinese boat arrived at Lintin from Macao bringing the linen

of the Officers of the Ships which had been there to be washed. There were also in the boat some Lascars and Seacunnies returning to their ships. When nearly alongside the American [opium store] Ship *Lintin* a Mandarine long rowing boat with about forty men seized her, and demanded money, which was refused, when the Mandarine vessel proceeded to carry her off. The Lascars in the boat called out for assistance, when the *Lintin* made a signal to the other ships and lowered a boat manned and armed. The other ships did the same, and pursued the Mandarine Cruizer. On overtaking her they demanded restitution of the boat which the Chinese refused, and seizing their spears shewed that they intended resistance. An order was then given to fire into the Mandarine vessel which immediately relinquished her Prize and pulled away. We are further informed that more than one of the boats fired into her after their object was attained. The Mandarine vessel returned the fire with several discharges of small cannon but without any effect. One Chinese was killed but whether previously to the restitution of the boat or subsequently is not ascertained . . . five others wounded in the affray three of them severely.

The Hoppo and the Kwangchow Fu severally wrote to the Hong Merchants ordering that an investigation be opened and that the 'foreign murderer' be seized and delivered up for trial. The merchants expressed to Mr. Lindsay, who was at Canton, their hope that the affair might not be taken up with much determination because of their apprehension that public attention would be drawn

to the circumstance of the Opium Fleet constantly lying at Lintin . . . but the Edict makes no allusion to the real fact that several of the ships concerned have been lying there for years. . . . The orders issued in the Edict to the Men of War and Cruizing Vessels to keep a strict watch to prevent the escape of the guilty persons, appear likewise to be a mere matter of form, as no Mandarine vessel of any sort has been near Lintin for several days.

The Committee declared that they had no jurisdiction over those who had committed the offence, firstly because, if they were on English ships, the ships had never even entered the port of Canton, and, in the second place, as many foreign ships as British were involved.

We do not hesitate, however, to record our opinion that the act committed by the Boats of the Lintin Ships was one of unwarrantable violence. Viewing the anomalous nature of the Commerce at Lintin, established in Defiance of the Chinese Government while it is fostered by its corruption and connivance, the Protection by Foreign Ships of

their Property from search or attack may admit of Justification. But after such property (as in this instance) has been rescued, the subsequent firing on a Government vessel was an Act of extreme Intemperance.

The Committee informed the Hong Merchants that, as there were no Company ships at Lintin, they were not concerned; all the British and American agents pleaded ignorance; and the authorities found it necessary to report the case to Peking. On April 9th, as the excitement over the affair seemed to have subsided, the Committee wrote to seven English firms, cautioning them of the need of care in the unauthorized traffic at Lintin, and warning them that they must distinguish between necessary self-defence and acts of unnecessary violence. The firms acquiesced in the Committee's comment, Messrs. Thos. Dent & Co. adding that they had no ship at Lintin at that time, and they 'were led to believe that no Chinaman was killed on the occasion, notwithstanding the Chop of the Viceroy to the contrary'. The authorities had by no means dropped the matter and they returned to the charge, the Kwangchow Fu on May 8th, the Viceroy on August 2nd, the Hoppo on August 7th, the Viceroy again on the 14th and on September 9th; in the last mandate the guilt was fastened on a country ship commanded by Peletun, which had sailed away on March 20th, apparently in some haste; and the Committee observe that

by the tenor of these Documents we are happy to observe that they are likely to conclude this Discussion.

In this expectation they were deceived, for on November 5th the Viceroy addressed an impatient mandate to the Hong Merchants, summarizing the evidence, and fixing the blame on

Tihtae, the murderous person on an English country ship;

Sampaling, the Englishman who controls the sale of opium on board the foreign ships; he is a Chief Captain and the murderous Foreigner who led on the men that fired the shot,

Tsaemow (Atom) an official Linguist at Canton;

Manyik (Magniac) the head of the business [probably Mr. Jardine, possibly Mr. Matheson]. He is always at the Thirteen Factories with Sampaling; a stationary demon, who receives the money for the opium.

Woo Showchang (Howqua Junior) is the principal of the Merchants who are securities for foreigners; defends and protects the murderous foreigners; a traitorous Merchant who monopolises the fees derived from the sale of Opium.

Woo Afoo, a Linguist who remains on board Sampaling's ship selling opium.

The veil is now thrown aside, and for the first time in an official document is there any recognition of the opium store-ships at Lintin.

Of late years, the Government orders have frequently and severely prohibited foreign ships from bringing with them Opium smoke clay into port ; but these foreign ships, to the number of several large vessels, cast anchor at Lintin ; and all foreign ships bringing opium to Canton, first go and store it up in the said ships, which deal it out and sell it at Lintin, to avoid examination and search at the Custom Houses. The ships called Opium Depots, which have been constantly anchored off the Eastern point of Lintin for several years, are no other than these. As to the foreign Merchant Magniac, he constantly lives at the Thirteen Factories at Canton. He is named the stationary (or resident) demon, and has not for a long time returned to his country ; of the Merchant people and Linguists there is not one who does not clearly know this. . . . Presuming on their wealth, they frame crafty devices, and openly report that (the Ship) has sailed back to her country, while secretly she is still loitering at the said place, storing up and selling smoke clay.

On this mandate the Committee note that they had hoped that the discussion was ended, and that they did not consider that any reply was called for.

On June 17th Captain William K. Lester, of the H.C. Artillery, with two children and a native female servant, arrived a passenger by the country ship *Hormajee Bomanjee* from Bombay, and went from Lintin to Macao on a Portuguese boat manned by Portuguese (black) natives of Macao. On the way they were attacked by Chinese smugglers or pirates, who killed one of the crew, carried off two chests of opium, which were the object of the attack, robbed Captain Lester of 800 dollars in money and valuables, and so injured Captain Lester by bruises that on arrival he was unable to walk. His subsequent proceedings, giving much annoyance to the Committee while they were engaged in a serious discussion with the Chinese authorities, are summarized in a paragraph of a report addressed to the Earl of Clare, Governor in Council, Bombay, in which the Committee say—

We submit to your Excellency whether Officers in the Company's service arriving in this Country where from the very ill defined nature of our relations with its Government we have extreme difficulty at all

times in preserving tranquillity, can be permitted to have recourse to any other channel of redress of grievances than the Company's Representatives. Captain Lester who had been attacked and robbed by pirates in landing from the Ship in a Boat which was conveying Opium (the object of the attack) instead of appealing to us for that assistance which we were willing to afford him addressed himself to the Editor of a public newspaper in a letter in which, after ten days residence in the Country, he offers his opinion on the nature of foreign relations with China. In a Memorial also which he has addressed to the Court of Directors, soliciting a recompense for his losses, he has characterised the attack made upon him as an insult to the national honor instead of being as it really was an attack by Thieves for the mere purpose of plunder.

The newspaper in question was presumably a new publication, called the *Chinese Courier*, which was very violent in its hostility to the Company, in its very first issue terming it a ' Commercial Monster '.

THE IMPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1831. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Woollens	2,130,638	220,783	2,351,421	144,440	..	..
Cotton Goods	273,681	227,043	500,724	483,382	..	..
Metals	195,047	106,979	302,026	958,575 [1]	..	..
Furs	..	..	..	166,736	..	..
Other Western Products	..	25,229	25,229	177,010 [2]	..	..
Western Products	2,599,366	580,034	3,179,400	1,930,143	..	5,109,543
Cotton	1,088,308	3,842,935	4,931,243	1,890	..	..
Opium	..	11,304,018	11,304,018	221,100	1,497,585	..
Sandalwood	..	74,471	74,471	7,000	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	85,544	85,544	17,152	..	..
Pepper	..	110,397	110,397	..	..	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	835,154	835,154	206,400	..	..
Eastern Produce	1,088,308	16,252,519	17,340,827	453,542	1,497,585	19,291,954
Total Goods	3,687,674	16,832,553	20,520,227	2,383,685	1,497,585	24,401,497
Silver	..	16,000	16,000	667,252 [3]	..	683,252
Total Imports	3,687,674	16,848,553	20,536,227	3,050,937	1,497,585 [4]	25,084,749

[1] Including quicksilver, 10,295 piculs, 720,650 dollars.
[2] Including ginseng, 2,698 piculs, 159,550 dollars.
[3] In addition, 2,480,871 dollars in bills.
[4] Portuguese flag.

THE EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1831. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other Flags.*	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Ships: Number	25	68	93	41	14	148
Tonnage	29,619	21,779	61,398	16,400	7,200	84,998
Exports:						
Tea	7,763,238	757,625	8,520,863	3,667,565	..	..
Raw Silk	..	2,654,688	2,654,688	40,330	..	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	247,861	247,861	1,668,382 [1]	..	..
Nankeens	..	160,941	160,941	72,082	..	..
Sugar	..	560,349	560,349	10,544	..	..
Other Commodities	..	794,738	794,738	398,829	..	..
Total Goods	7,763,238	5,176,202	12,939,440	5,857,732	..	18,797,172
Silver	1,173,957	2,849,046	4,023,003	..	..	4,023,003
	8,937,195	8,025,248	16,962,443	5,857,732	..	22,820,175
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	123,793					
Factory Expenses	153,250	312,000	805,043	142,000	..	..
Ship Expenses	216,000					
	493,043	312,000	805,043	142,000	..	947,043
Cost of Investment	9,430,238	8,337,248	17,767,486	5,999,732	..	23,767,218

[1] Including sewing silk, 350 piculs, 140,000 dollars.

THE EAST INDIA CO. FACTORY AT MACAO

STATEMENT OF THE OPIUM TRADE AT CANTON, SEASON 1831

	Bengal. Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	*Total.* Chests.
In hand, April 1, 1831 . .	1,943	2,037	..	3,980
Imported	6,612	9,211	402	16,225
	8,555	11,248	402	20,205
Deliveries: at Lintin . .	5,820	8,019	402	14,241
at Macao . .	140	246	..	386
Total . .	5,960	8,265	402	14,627
In hand, March 31, 1832 .	2,595	2,983	..	5,578
Value of opium deliveries (dollars): . . .	5,683,010	5,818,574	221,100	11,722,684
Market prices (dollars per chest):				
Highest . . .	1,060	800	550	
Lowest	885	645		

DESTINATION OF EXPORTS FROM CANTON IN AMERICAN VESSELS, SEASON 1831

			Dollars.	Dollars.
To United States:				
Tea	Piculs	81,156	2,539,765	
Raw Silk . . .	,,	109	40,330	
Sewing Silk . .	,,	350	140,000	
Silk Piece Goods .	Pieces	268,677	1,528,382	
Nankeens . .	,,	122,285	72,082	
Cassia Bark . .	Piculs	3,541	37,181	
Sugar . . .	,,	2,318	10,544	
Matting . . .	Rolls	2,844	14,220	
Firecrackers . .	Boxes	15,915	23,873	
				5,577,732
To Europe:				
Tea	Piculs	2,720	127,800	
Sundries . . .	Value	..	2,200	
				130,000
To South America and Sandwich Islands:				
Exports unclassified				150,000
				5,857,732

THE COURT'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE INVESTMENT TO BE PROVIDED IN INDIA AND CHINA FOR THE SEASON 1831–2

		£	£
Bengal Investment: for England:	Piece Goods	102,551	
	Raw Silk	788,800	
	Saltpetre	52,200	
	Sugar	111,360	
	Indigo	348,000	
		1,402,911	
for China: Cotton		167,040	
			1,569,951
Madras Investment: for China: Cotton		..	..
Bombay Investment: for China: Cotton		..	195,862
India and China: for Cape of Good Hope		..	5,000
China Investment: for England: Tea		1,714,450	
for Halifax: Tea		47,250	
			1,761,700
Total Estimated Commercial Disbursements in India and China in 1831–2			3,532,513

THE COURT'S ESTIMATE OF FUNDS FOR THE PROVISION OF THE INVESTMENTS, SEASON 1831–2

	£	£
Political Charges in England May, 1830–April, 1831, including Pay Office demands	..	1,818,800
Cost and Charges of Military and Public Stores	90,000	
Marine Stores	26,900	
Stationery	20,000	
		136,900
		1,955,700
Sale of Europe Goods in three Presidencies	20,000	
China	707,673	
		727,673
Sale of Company's Cotton in China:		
Bombay, 49,140 piculs	147,420	
Bengal, 33,750 ,,	121,500	
Madras, 13,500 ,,	..	
		268,920
To be paid by Commanders into Canton Treasury:		
Bombay Cotton, 6 ships	78,149	
Bengal ,, 5 ,,	66,785	
Madras ,, 2 ,,	..	
		144,934
To be paid into Canton Treasury for Certificates		100,000
Estimate of Commercial Funds in India and China		3,197,227
Deficiency in Season 1831–2		335,286
		3,532,513

APPENDIX AA

Papers on the Opium Trade

Paper received by express on July 24, 1831, by Choo, Acting Governor [Viceroy] of Canton, directed against the introduction of Opium (Recorded August 23rd).

On the 16th day of the 6th moon of the 11th Year of Taoukwang an express was received from the Military Board, at Peking forwarding a Letter from Council of War addressed to the Cabinet minister and Governor of Canton, Le, and the Fooyuen Choo, requiring them to enjoin the Contents thereof on the Hoppo Chung. The following is a copy of the Letter.

On the 25th of the 5th moon of the 11th Year of Taoukwang the following commands were received from His Majesty.

A person has written to me concerning the numerous illegalities connected with Opium, and requesting that the sources whence it is derived may be shut off. He says that foreign ships bring opium to Canton ; and at last they have dared to establish a place of resort for the ships outside the Bogue, among the Fishermans Islands, which they call the Opium Mart and they have anchored with them a foreign Chief in a Ship of War which they call a Convoy.

They form clandestine connexions with native vagabonds who make a pretext of opening money shops, but underhand are opium brokers—These shops they call large furnaces. There are such shops at Canton in Leiouhing street near Shapsam Hong (The Foreign Factories). Nefarious merchants go to these shops and confer with the foreigners about the price. A paper is written as proof, and they go to the mart and receive the commodity. This they call writing a note.

There are also wholesale smuggling Boats called *Faehae* (fast crabs or fast shoes) which go and come with the speed of flight. These boats run at night if they happen to pass any guard house where the soldiers beat the gong, they even presume to fire upon them ; and the people on duty at the guard house dare not do anything to them, nor yet report the occurrence to superior authority to punish them, hence their irregularities are committed without the least fear. Of this Class of fast shoe Boats there are from one to two hundred. These are the boats that

convey the goods from the Mart to the furnace, and they form illicit connexions with all the Government cruisers, who divide the Bribes among themselves by shares in order to afford protection to the smuggler when going backwards and forwards. This business is still worse than the rest.

The places where the Opium is sold are Haemun (Amoy) in Fokien Province ; Tientsing in Chih le Province and the districts Luychow foo and Keung chow-foo (or Hainan) belonging to Canton. They all get notes at the Furnaces and go to the Mart for the goods. Besides these (wholesale dealers) there are individual traders. Whether first entering the Port or going from one district to another the whole is effected by the *Faehae* boats, which make a point of going by certain passages. In places belonging to Nanhae district they go by Seen Kwan tsen, Lan shih sen, Tsze lung Kow, and Lunghae Kow. In places belonging to Heung shan district they go by Hangpoo. In San Shwuy they go by Le nan sen, Loo paou fou, and other places.

In dispersing Opium through the Country, it is effected by nefarious people, who form connexions with all the corrupt police runners at the various courts, who clandestinely establish places of reception which they call little furnaces. In towns, villages, market-places, wherever there are money shops, Opium is to be sold. Annually there are not less than several millions of Sycee thus go beyond seas. Hence the useful wealth of the Country is exchanged for a noxious commodity from abroad. The flowing poison is inexhaustible. The waste of property is infinite. Thus far the informer.

Opium is a flowing poison in degree immense. I, the Emperor, have frequently sent down orders to all the Governors and Deputy governors of Provinces, to exert themselves according to their local peculiarities in devising plans to effect a strict interdict of it. The greatest part of Opium comes from abroad and is collected at Canton. Unless the sources be cut off all measures taken will only be like neglecting the root and dressing the Branches. Although strict regulations should be established in the interior, they would after all be no utility. A person having now reported to me the evils which are to be put away, I hereby command Le and the others to ascertain whether the real circumstances have been stated and let them examine faithfully and carefully how opium may be prevented being brought clandestinely to the Coast and secretly sold. All foreign ships, unless Merchantmen cannot be permitted to establish a separate place of resort. Let Le and his Colleagues exert their whole hearts in devising what is to be done. The sources must be cut off and the root of the evil cleared away. Opium must not enter the interior, that future calamities may be prevented.

If the said Governor and the others can exert all their strength and all their heart in removing from China a great evil, their merit will not be small. Let exertion be heaped upon exertion. Take this order and command Le and Choo to enjoin the same on Chung—Respect this !

Extracts from Dispatch of Select Committee to Rear Admiral Sir Edward W. C. R. Owen, dated January 9th, 1832.

14. We are informed that Your Excellency is desirous of obtaining some information respecting the character of the Trade carried on by British Ships at Lintin which is of a kind more anomalous than exists we believe in any country in the world. It is probably well known to Your Excellency that Opium is imported into China to a very large amount (last season to the amount of nearly 20,000 chests), that it is an article prohibited by Chinese Laws and its consumption denounced by Imperial authority, that its previous sale in India affords a very considerable source of revenue, and that the profits resulting from the Trade to which it gives rise, become in general a source of much advantage to the British Merchants who are engaged in it.

15. Some years ago nearly the whole of the Opium Trade was centred in Macao from whence it was driven by most impolitic and injudicious regulations of the Portuguese Government. It was subsequently carried on at Whampoa where it was met by equally short-sighted prohibitions and exactions of the Chinese Authorities. The principle of self-protection then compelled it to seek and ultimately to find a refuge among the islands in the mouth of the Canton River where it is now conducted to a very enlarged amount. Indeed the commerce carried on at Lintin extends to articles of nearly every description. The Chinese Government even if they possessed the means do not appear to have any intention or disposition to put it down.

16. Although the Trade in Opium is declared by Chinese laws to be altogether illegal, yet numerous officers of Government receive stipulated bribes for their connivance, and the very vessels appointed to counteract this commerce are frequently those by whose instrumentality it was carried on. Official reports are made twice in the course of every month to the Governor of Canton of the number of Foreign ships engaged in the Trade at Lintin, and nearly at simultaneous periods public assertions are made by the commanders of the Chinese war vessels that they have swept the seas of them. We need scarcely add that the ships remain undisturbed at their anchorage.

XC

DISPUTE WITH CHINESE AUTHORITIES, 1831

At the close of the season 1830 the factory migrated to Macao on January 31, 1831. On that day the Committee record—

We have frequently noticed on our Records the existence of an obnoxious mound of rubbish in front of the factories. During the last few years this has gone on continually encreasing, so that of late it had become so offensive a nuisance as to render some of the front Factories barely habitable when the wind blew from that Quarter. The Heap extended from the river side for a distance of nearly two hundred yards to within sixty yards of the walls of the Factories, and within its precincts a village of Hovels had grown up, inhabited by more than a hundred of the lowest outcasts of the Population of Canton. About a month ago we took an opportunity of pointing out to the Merchants in strong terms, that this had now become a nuisance which could no longer be tolerated, and that we trusted they would view the subject in a proper light, and take instant measures for the removal of the heap. We are happy now to be able to state that our remonstrances have produced the desired effect. The sanction of Government having been procured, several hundred boats have been daily employed during the last week in removing the accumulated mass, a large portion of which is so old a date as the great fire in 1822 and it has now entirely disappeared.

At Macao the Committee had three months of peace, and then, on May 4th, they received the news of the death in prison of Wooyay, younger brother of the late Goqua, and manager of the Tongyu Hong. He had been thrown into prison principally because of ' his traitorous connexion with the English ', and the Committee had refrained from taking any action for his relief only from the conviction that any such interference ' would but afford another plea to his persecutors '.

Looking to the probable consequences of this unfortunate event, we cannot but anticipate that it will prove a bar to the addition of any men of Wealth and respectability to the Co-Hong. A report has obtained currency in Canton, that Wooyay feeling convinced that his case was desperate, and that his death or perpetual imprisonment was determined on, took poison and destroyed himself, hoping thereby to obtain revenge, and escape from the malice of his Persecutors.

Ten days later private advices were received from Canton that on May 12th a visit to the factory had been made by the Governor (temporarily acting as Viceroy) accompanied by the Hoppo and a strong body of armed attendants ; that one of the linguists had been put into chains and carried away a prisoner, and had been threatened with decapitation ; that Howqua (Junior) was ordered to prison, and only released, by the intercession of the Hoppo, after being an hour upon his knees ; and that the Governor had issued orders for the destruction of the property connecting the Company's factory with the river. Messrs. Daniell and Smith, third and fourth members of the Committee, proceeded at once to Canton and reported as follows :

May 16th. On our arrival in Canton this morning we found that the orders of the Fooyuen had been already put into execution and that the ground in the front of the Company's Factory was a scene of devastation. On the morning of the 13th Inst. workmen had commenced to pull down the Walls, uproot the Trees, and on the evening of the 15th the Stone Quay for the landing of our Cargoes was begun to be destroyed. . . . Howqua informed us that on the morning of the 12th the Fooyuen proceeded to the Hon'ble Company's Factory accompanied by the Hoppo ; and quite unexpected by the Hong Merchants, while walking in the Gardens he ordered his attendants to uncover the late King's picture, and seating himself before it, sent for the Linguists. Atam who appeared first was questioned how he dared to permit the ground in front of the Factory to be completed, and on his replying that he had no power to interfere in the business, the Fooyuen ordered chains to be brought from a Mandarin house in the neighbourhood and to be put on Atam ; he threatened to have his head cut off, if within the space of two days the premises were not reduced to the state they were in three years ago. He threatened likewise immediate imprisonment and probable decapitation to Howqua, and it was only on his remaining for an hour on his knees, that his punishment, and that of Atam was remitted at the intercession of the Hoppo, and ten days granted for completing his orders. The conduct of the Fooyuen was throughout violent in the extreme, he made use of the coarsest signs of punishment to the Merchants, and Howqua expressed a deep sense of regret at the proceeding of this Officer—he said that he had come upon them like *Thunder*, and would not listen to a word of Reason, but treated them as slaves. He added that the Fooyuen must have received especial orders from Peking or that he would not have dared to act in opposition to the Viceroy on this disputed point, nor have been so indiscriminately violent in his mode of carrying them into execution.

The two members of the Committee found fault with the Hong

Merchants for not having informed them officially of the outrage and for not having remonstrated with the Governor, and expressed their indignation that he should have destroyed works which the Viceroy had permitted to be done and which were necessary for landing and shipping their goods.

On the point of any orders having been received from the Emperor, we are inclined to entertain doubts, nor can conceive them, if even they exist, to embrace the devastation now in progress, as the former question with the Viceroy did not extend to the destruction of the Quay, but simply to filling up a space between it and the Factory ; we are led to believe that the Fooyuen, Tartar General and Hoppo, acting in concert and influenced by a dislike to the foreign policy of the Viceroy, which for a Chinese may be considered unusually liberal, have availed themselves of his absence to enforce with rigor and injustice, a point which was formerly disputed between him and the Committee, but which has now attained a length not warranted by any previous circumstance. His conduct is reported to have been very violent, making allusions of a degrading nature towards foreigners, the English in particular.

Resolved to show promptly their resentment at the Governor's tone and to impress him with the conviction that they were not to be intimidated, they addressed to him a strong remonstrance, and expressed their trust that His Excellency would issue orders to desist from further destruction of the ground and would forthwith cause it to be restored to its former state of utility. The Hong Merchants, when asked to present this to the Governor, pleaded for a delay of ten days, but this was refused and the address was left with them.

The Committee did not long entertain the idea that the Viceroy was especially friendly to them, and that the Governor had grasped the opportunity during his absence to persecute them. On May 20th they received copy of a mandate dated May 12th,[1] to which they were required to yield obedience, communicating the copy of a memorial to the throne presented on February 24th jointly by the Viceroy, Governor, and Hoppo, restating the old restrictions imposed on the foreigners at Canton, explaining the reasons for their enactment, and describing some minor points on which modification might be permitted.

On the same date, May 12th, was also issued a further mandate dealing with the presence of foreign women (Mrs. Baynes in 1829,

[1] Cf. Appendix AB.

Mrs. Whiteman in 1830) in the factories, communicating the decision of the Provincial Judge :

> Let the Hong Merchant Woo Showchang (Howqua Junior) and his fellow Merchants be condemned, as was decided to be chastised by the Bamboo, but let them according to law pay a ransom, and let them be prosecuted for the ransom money, and it be put into the public Treasury. Let the Linguist Tsaemow (Atam) and his fellows be also punished by the Cudgel [heavy bamboo] but not dismissed from their situations. And let the Compradors Tsangke and his companions be immediately dismissed from their situations.

But the mandate continues that on this decision coming for sanction before the Governor, he declared that these penalties must be remitted, since the decision had been given before the issue of the Act of Grace for the fiftieth birthday of His Majesty, by which all sentences to the cudgel or the bamboo then pending were to be remitted. How much money was paid for this application of the Act of Grace is not recorded.

This sudden outburst of activity on May 12th—the violence of the Governor, the communication of the rules of conduct, the punishment of the merchants, linguists, and others—seemed to the Committee to be preparatory to some future step prejudicial to the Company's commercial interests ; and it made them more inclined to attach importance to Wooyay's death in prison, and inspired a feeling that ' the loss of one or two more respectable Merchants equally innocent would render our commercial footing here altogether untenable '. They could not openly comment on the death of Wooyay, and

> our sense of what is due to the man and to the Company's interests in defending him must be sacrificed to the policy of preventing the evil from spreading further. The forcible entrance into our Factory by the Fooyuen and his armed escort, the studied insults of a National and injuries of a Commercial nature, by the orders of that Officer, are of a highly dangerous character, and require some security against the recurrence of similar acts ; if otherwise, we are placed at the mercy of every intemperate person who may be appointed to a high office in the Province. The seizure of one of our Linguists, his being chained in the Company's Hall, his life threatened, and Howqua, in our Factory, threatened with the same ignominious punishment, for his connection with us, and only released at the intercession of the Hoppo, are acts which impending over our daily intercourse with the Chinese, have the natural effect of shaking the confidence of the Natives in us, and rendering

ours a disgraceful, and more than [that], even a dangerous service. We could not in safety pass over such instances without remonstrating against them, and endeavoring at least to regain our former privileges. We need scarcely say that we are viewed as the authorities of greatest importance among the foreign residents in China, and were we to pass over such proceedings, unnoticed, our Factories would not be for a moment safe from intrusion, nor the valuable property often in our Warehouses secure from spoliation, since upon the recent intrusion of the Fooyuen, every Chinese in our Employ fled from our premises in alarm for his safety.

The Committee then passed in review the restrictive regulations which had been republished on the same day, and showed how far and in what way each worked an injury; and as they now had about five months clear before their trading operations necessarily began they thought it best to warn the authorities, by some positive act, that a persistence in the re-enforcement of the regulations would be resisted, even to the extent of abandoning the trade.

In pursuance of the views expressed in this Consultation [held on May 20th] we purpose to despatch Mr. Lindsay to Canton to deliver up the keys of the Company's Factory to the Hong Merchants, for them to convey to the Fooyuen, with a letter [1] expressive of our intentions, and regret at the orders he issued on the 12th Instant, stating at the same time that we will not retain the Factories, while they are not secure from such intrusion, and our premises from destruction.

They also decided that a public Notification [1] should be issued to inform the British merchants in China of the events which had occurred, and to warn them that, should the evils complained of remain unremoved, commercial intercourse would be suspended on August 1st next; and they addressed a dispatch [2] to the Supreme Government at Fort William, narrating the acts of which they complained, demonstrating the injury thereby occasioned or feared, and asking for such support as the Vice-President in Council thought it expedient to give.

Mr. Lindsay took to Canton the memorial to the Viceroy and Governor, and requested the Hong Merchants to deliver it; but they averred that their lives would be endangered if they attempted such a task, and they admitted that the protest of Messrs. Daniell and Smith was still in their possession undelivered. Later Mr. Lindsay learned that they deceived him even

[1] Cf. Appendix AC. [2] Cf. Appendix AD.

in declaring that they, or some of them, went into the city to confer with the Hoppo, or with the Governor's secretaries ; and in fact they stated to Mr. Lindsay that the Hoppo had informed them that neither he nor any officer of Government would receive any petition whatever. On May 27th Mr. Lindsay was informed that

> the Fooyuen and Tsiangkün were coming to visit the Factories and Troops were stationed at the entrance to China Street. At about 2 P.M. our Hong was again filled with Mandarin runners, etc. I was disappointed to hear from one of the Linguists that the Fooyuen did not intend to come in person, but had deputed the Kwang Heep.

This officer, in command of the troops in the district, and so of those guarding the city gates, customarily received petitions presented at the gates ; to him, therefore, Mr. Lindsay offered the Committee's memorials and the keys of the factory, and after some discussion he accepted them ; but before leaving the premises he returned all to Howqua with the remark, '*None are to be received*'. Mr. Lindsay was thereupon ordered back to Macao, with an encomium on the 'zeal, discretion and judgment which he has displayed during his residence in Canton'. The Committee, being thus shut off from all direct channels of approach to the authorities, now drew up a public notification in Chinese which, through the Hong Merchants, or the linguists, or by any other agency, they hoped might come under the Governor's eye.

> The English President and Select Committee have been compelled by late occurrences in Canton to address their Excellencies the Viceroy, Fooyuen, and Hoppo, but their Letters have been refused to be presented by the Hong Merchants, and the Kwang Heep into whose hands they were likewise delivered has declined to receive them. The English come to China for the purposes of Commerce. They wish to be the friends of the Chinese people. But their Canton Factory has been attacked and their property destroyed while they were living in peace and quietness at Macao. Chinese Natives have been chained and punished in their Factories for their connection with them, and new Regulations have been attempted to be imposed upon their Commercial transactions to which they never can submit. Public Notice has therefore been given that British Intercourse with China will, unless the evils which they complain of be remedied, be suspended at an early date. The English have no other than a feeling of perfect good will to the Chinese people, but they never can submit to oppression.

On May 30th twenty-one of the private English met and passed a series of resolutions,[1] as follows:

1st. The statements in the Committee's Notice of May 19th enumerated only a part of the vexations inflicted by the Chinese.

2nd. The regulations re-issued concurrently with the insult to the portrait of the King of England, and the refusal to receive the Committee's representations, indicate a deliberate plan to oppress and degrade British subjects.

3rd. Therefore they resolve to remonstrate with the Chinese and to appeal to their own country, to put an end to these petty annoyances.

4th. Firmness and even acts of violence have always obtained more from the Chinese than tame submission.

5th. They express their approval of the measures adopted by the Committee.

The notification to the Chinese was favourably received by those who were friendly to the English, and produced some effect on the authorities: the linguist Atam was released on May 31st after having been punished in prison; but on June 8th the Committee at Macao received copy of a mandate from the Viceroy, dated Luichow, May 22nd, to the effect that the Emperor had ordered that the eight regulations proposed in February should be put in force, the Imperial Decree continuing—

The foreign Merchants have, on former occasions, repeatedly opposed interdicts and orders, but since they came of themselves to repentance, let through clemency their punishment be waived. But it is absolutely necessary to order them to obey and hold fast the old regulations. How can it be that they will again oppose and transgress? Still if they be allowed daily to increase in arrogance and insolence, in a trifling with, and contempt of, the Laws, in indulging their irregular disposition to perverse refractoriness and gradually going on to an increased exhibition of their pride and want of self-restraint, what eventually will be the result?

This demonstrated to the Committee that the apparently capricious conduct of the Canton authorities was fully supported by the Government at Peking, and that the local officials could not now suddenly reverse their previous action. They accordingly decided that they must now await the decision of the Supreme Government, and on June 10th notified[2] the English merchants that the date August 1st, originally fixed for the suspension of the trade, would not be adhered to; but that the

[1] Cf. Appendix AE.

[2] Cf. Appendix AF.

merchants would do well to ' recover such Property belonging to them as is at present in possession of Natives of this Country '.

At the same date another mandate was received from the Viceroy, dated May 16th, referring to the visit paid to Canton in April by the wife of Captain Kierulf, commander of a Danish vessel which took in her cargo at Lintin. In the mandate there is no reference to Lintin, but only to the barbarian woman's breach of the regulations, and commendation for her obedience, after a stay of one week, to the order given that she should go at once to Macao.

From June 8th to the end of August there was apparently a period of comparative calm ; the records of the ' Separate Proceedings ' relating to the dispute with the authorities have been lost ; but the index, which has been preserved, contains the following entries of interest :

June 22. The Viceroy returns from Hainan ; expects to proceed soon to Peking.

June 30. The Address for the Viceroy sent on June 20 to the Hong Merchants, is this day returned by order of the Viceroy, together with the keys of the factory ; Committee send the address again to the Hong Merchants with renewed requests to deliver it.

July 20. The English merchants present a memorial to the Fooyuen and Hoppo on the subject of the new regulations ; the Committee characterize the answer as couched in the same tone of violence towards foreigners as in preceding official documents.

July 29. Learn that the Hong Merchants were arranging with the Mandarins for deepening the river in front of the Factories and putting the Square in order ; merchants wish Committee to apply to Govt. for permission ; Committee decline.

Aug. 23. The Committee, learning that the Fooyuen would be glad to accommodate existing differences, address His Excellency as to Officers of Government entering Factory without previous notice—right of addressing the Officers of Government—prohibition against employing Chinese Natives—destruction of the Quay—disrespect shown to the Picture of the King of England—and conclude by trusting that the British Trade will receive from His Excellency every just encouragement and protection.

Mr. Davis, second on the Committee, went to Canton on August 29th, partly to sell the Company's cotton, of which 30,000 bales were then awaiting sale, and partly to secure the delivery of the address. He found the Hong Merchants reluctant to undertake

the task, but ultimately he prevailed. The address was delivered to the Governor, who received it, opened it, and made his comments as he read; he seemed much concerned at the accusation that he had shown disrespect to the late King's portrait—

> declaring that he was ignorant of the character of the Portrait, the more especially as he perceived it was hung at the end of the room, instead of the middle, which among the Chinese was the place of honor.

He promptly sent an answer (presumably in a mandate to the Hong Merchants) which is thus indexed:

> Sept. 8. Fooyuen's reply—notices Committee building an addition to the landing place and surrounding it with a wall, etc.—that Foreigners having affairs of importance must appeal to the Viceroy's office through the Hong Merchants—that Compradores are responsible for the hiring of Natives in behalf of Foreigners—that the assertion of his having insulted the King's Picture has not the least foundation; and concludes by admitting that the Chief has a knowledge of propriety and justice.

On this communication the Committee complacently record their favourable opinion:

> We observe with satisfaction the altered tone of this document when compared with the previous ones issued by this officer; and evincing a disposition to conciliate, which he has not before shewn. We cannot but feel confident that our declarations to him, together with the Chinese notice exhibited, and the measures which we are publicly known to have adopted, must have had the effect of arresting him in his course of aggressive measures, and satisfying him that we will not submit to oppression, though we have every disposition to conduct our affairs amicably if possible.

It was well that the Committee found satisfaction in this, for on October 3rd they received a dispatch from Sir Charles T. Metcalfe informing them that he, as Vice-President, was not competent to act on their suggestions, but that he had forwarded their dispatches to the Governor-General. In no long time, however, they heard on October 18th from Lord William Bentinck that he accepted their suggestions and had written to Rear-Admiral Sir Edward W. C. R. Owen, Commander-in-Chief of the naval forces on the station, in whose prudence, sound judgment, and intelligence he placed great reliance, asking him to send to China such ships as could be spared, and to go himself when and if he found it expedient.

In writing to Admiral Owen he declared—

I am disposed to place great reliance in the wisdom, discretion and experience of the Select Committee, who now preside over the affairs of the Company at Canton, and more particularly of Mr. Marjoribanks, the Chief of the Factory. I have not hesitated therefore, to comply with the recommendations and requests urged in their despatch.

He enclosed letters from himself: one to the Viceroy, to be presented should circumstances require it, with suitable ceremony; the other for the Emperor, to be delivered only in the last resort.

The Committee were much pleased by the prompt and cordial manner in which Lord William Bentinck had attended to their recommendations; and they sent a reply [1] in which they expressed their opinion on the spirit in which the Chinese ought to be approached—by a bold assertion of independence, and not by abject submission, a policy to which the Select Committee at Canton, however composed, had already come, while the authorities in London, whether Court of Directors, or Board of Control, or Ministry, required yet ten years before they were driven to adopt it. The Committee considered, however, that the affair was now out of their hands, and had been placed in the hands of Admiral Owen, whose arrival they confidently expected at an early date.

The Viceroy returned to Canton on December 1st, and on the 3rd the Committee sent him a short note of welcome and congratulation. On December 5th Captain Charles H. Fremantle arrived in H.M.S. *Challenger* and sent to Canton a note in which he informed the Viceroy that he was the bearer of a letter for His Excellency from the Governor-General of British India, which he desired to present in person. This the Viceroy declined, sending a verbal message that the letter must be transmitted to him through the Hong Merchants; and when the request was pressed, the Viceroy stated to the Hong Merchants—

Hitherto all nations in presenting petitions have delivered them to the Hong Merchants to present for them. Now the English Naval Commander wishes to enter the City himself and personally present a communication. It would be requisite in conformity with the dignity of the Celestial Empire that when I ascend the Hall and admit him to interview, the Naval Commander should immediately perform respect-

[1] Cf. Appendixes AG, AH.

fully the ceremony of kneeling and bowing the head to the ground, and should then take the letter and present it upwards to me.

When this insistence on the kotow was transmitted by the Hong Merchants, Mr. Marjoribanks replied at once :

While I continue to fill the situation, which I now unworthily hold, my recommendation at all times to His Majesty's Officers visiting this Country will be to receive such language as you have introduced into your Letter with the indifference which it deserves, but should such language be accompanied with actions of insult, immediately and adequately to resent them.

It was finally arranged as a compromise that the letter should be delivered, with fitting ceremony, by Captain Fremantle at the Teen-Tsze landing-place to an ' officer of high rank ', who should receive it on behalf of the Viceroy. This landing-place was described as being ' customarily used as the first reception-place for Ambassadors from tributary and friendly states, only acknowledged by the Chinese under the denomination of Tribute Bearers ' ; and here, on December 31st, the letter was presented. Captain Fremantle was accompanied by Captain Hamley of H.M.S. *Wolf* (which had arrived only that morning) and by Messrs. Davis, Lindsay, Thornhill, Young, and Pearson of the factory, with Dr. Morrison as interpreter ; and he was escorted by ten boats from the Indiamen. At the landing-place the party was received by the linguists, and a body of 200 of the Kwang-heep's troops was drawn up to furnish a guard. In the hall were the Hong Merchants, and

so soon as we entered the Hall two Chinese Officers who were seated at the further extremity rose and walked forward so as to meet us in the centre. One of the Chinese Officers was recognised as the Kwang Heë the Mandarin to whom the addresses and Keys of the Factory were delivered in the Company's Garden in May last. He is a Foo tseang a military title judging from analogy about equal to a Lieutenant General.[1] The other Officer who was specially deputed to receive the letter was a man of precisely similar rank, but belonging to the Governor's [Viceroy's] own Staff. He is a Foo tseang holding the station of Chung Heë.[2] On meeting no interchange of civilities took place ; chairs were not offered, nor was a word spoken until Captain Fremantle

[1] Later authorities (e. g. Mayers, *The Government of China*) are all agreed in rendering Chentai as Brigadier-General, and Hiehtai or Futsiang as Colonel. In their education they would be outclassed by an Ensign in the British Army of even those days.

[2] Chung Hieh, Military Secretary to the Viceroy.

addressed them requesting to know whether the Person deputed to receive the Governor General's Letter was present, an answer was given in the affirmative, and the Chung Heë was pointed out. . . . No further exchange of words took place and after a short pause, during which the two Mandarins looked at each other and then at us in a way denoting some confusion and a considerable wish for our departure, Captain Fremantle bowed to the Chung Heë, salutations in the Chinese form were exchanged between us and the party returned to the Boats and proceeded back to the Factory. During this short interview nothing occurred which could fairly be construed into disrespect . . . the Chinese were evidently performing an unpleasant duty which was forced upon them.

Captain Hamley had joined the party on the way, and was the bearer of dispatches, which he presented after the ceremony, from Admiral Sir Edward Owen to the Committee. From these they learned that, as so long a period had elapsed since the outrage was committed, he did not think that any useful purpose would be served by his rushing to China; instead he proposed to wait until he could hear from the Governor-General what force would be placed at his disposal to enable him to demand and obtain proper redress. In informing Lord William Bentinck of this intention, which he did on November 12th, he added:

In alluding to this measure I feel it necessary to assure Your Excellency that I am no advocate for employing such a force, if the respect our country fairly claims and the security of our fellow subjects does not call imperatively for it. It is with diffidence that I allude to such a measure, but these incessant repetitions of aggression on the part of the Chinese, and of threats to put a stop to trade on ours, do seem to call for settlement of a more impressive and more permanent character than they hitherto have had. Whilst during war our naval superiority had driven every Flag from Canton but our own, the threat of stopping trade was an effectual restriction on the Chinese authorities [but with the return of peace other flags will supply the shipping if the British ships are withdrawn]. Such is the conclusion I have drawn from the tone and temper of the Chinese Local Government, which has (as it appears to me) assumed a more decided and malicious character on every new occasion.

As the Admiral was not now coming to Canton, the only step remaining for the Committee was to obtain a reply from the Viceroy to the Governor-General; this was sent with the following mandate:

Li, Cabinet Minister, Viceroy of the Two Kwang, etc., hereby issues

his commands to the Hong Merchants to take immediately the order now sent, and give it to the English Chief, to transmit to the said Nations Naval Captain, that he may enjoin the order on the said Nations Civil and Military (supposed to mean the Governor General of India) to know it and conform thereto. Further immediately order the said Chief to command the said Naval Captain to set sail and return home at an early period. He must not make pretexts for loitering about here. Hasten ! Hasten ! This is an Order !

For several days the Hong Merchants, in a body and singly, used every argument to persuade the Committee to accept this as an answer. This was refused, and on January 8, 1832, the Viceroy sent to the Hong Merchants a mandate, in which he embodied his commentary on the charges brought against his Government by Lord William Bentinck, throwing on the Hong Merchants the blame for all that had gone amiss, and exonerating the Governor from any intention of insulting the King's portrait. Excepting that it was no reply, but was a mandate addressed to the Hong Merchants, the document was not unsatisfactory as a peace offering ; but, in sending a copy of it to Admiral Owen, the Committee expressed their opinion that it was a very incomplete settlement—

We beg to state that the very serious manner in which from the first we deemed it necessary to regard the acts of aggressive violence committed, arrested their progress and prevented the new and destructive code of Imperial regulations from being carried into effect. A subsequent knowledge on the part of the officers of the Chinese Government that we possessed the confidence of His Excellency the Governor General who would extend to us if necessary the powerful assistance and protection of British India has enabled us to carry our transactions of the season with comparatively little interruption or difficulty and it has been apparent from many circumstances that a very great sensation and apprehension have existed in the Native mind of this country of the results which would follow the acts of violence of its Government. But though further evils will have been averted by the course of measures pursued, it is our duty distinctly to state that no redress has been obtained for past injuries, and no security against a recurrence of similar acts to those which we have complained of, and that British Commerce at this Port remains exposed to grievances of the most severe and oppressive character.

The part taken by Mr. Marjoribanks in the troubles of this season is referred to in a minute recorded at the time of his departure for England on January 17, 1832, by his two colleagues

on the Select Committee, Mr. J. F. Davis and Mr. J. N. Daniell:

> In recording the departure of Mr. Marjoribanks from the important situation which extreme ill health has compelled him thus prematurely to quit, we deem it only our duty to bear sincere testimony to the ability and temper, with which he has presided over British Interests in China, during a year perhaps unprecedented in the history of our Intercourse with this Country, for the demand which it brought for the exercise of a sound discretion. Mr. Marjoribanks assumed his functions at a period when irritation had reached its height, and the explosion in May last of long smothered ill will, on the part of the local Govt. presented a crisis of no ordinary difficulty. The measures then taken and the references made have through the handsome support of His Exc'y Lord Wm. Bentinck already gone far to place the means of redress in our hands, and we may look to the future with confidence for success.

The Governor's reply of September 8th throws light on the whole of this discussion, which furnishes another illustration of the incompatibility of Chinese and English law and temperament. By the law of England alluvial or other riverine accretion belongs to the owner of the riverine property to which it attaches itself. By Chinese law it accrues to the Crown,[1] which may appropriate it for public use, or grant a title to the adjoining owner, or (if that owner does not satisfy the official, the Hien of the district) may dispose of it to the highest bidder; and in practice alluvial accretion has always provided homes for a horde of squatters, who, sooner or later, have in China to receive compensation for disturbance. In this case the great fire of 1822 had thrown masses of rubble and débris of all sorts into the river abreast of the factories, and had caused shoaling of the water. A quay wall was built, at first in front of the other factories, and later in front of the English factory; and then the Committee urged their ground landlords the Hong Merchants to do—what the merchants knew they had no legal right to do—improve the intervening ground and remove therefrom unendurable nuisances.[2] The Committee understood that the sanction of the authorities had been obtained; had this been the case, nothing more would have been heard of the matter; but it is to be assumed that the merchants had not paid sufficient money to the Namhoi Hien, or what he accepted as sufficient, and that he had had an

[1] P. Hoang, *De Legali Dominio.* [2] Cf. *antea*, pp. 175, 193, 278.

insufficient sum to divide with his superiors, the Kwangchow Fu, the Sze-Tai, the Governor, and the Viceroy, and that somewhere along the line an appeal to Peking was started, which it was impossible to quash. Then came the order 'Compel the foreigners to obey the law'. We see then on the one hand a Chinese mandarin carrying out an imperial rescript, accustomed to immediate acquiescence in any order he might give, and to implicit obedience so long as he was in sight, resentful and impatient at the least hesitation or opposition to his will; he visits the factory attended by a rabble of undisciplined soldiers and runners, eager to forestall his slightest wish. On the other hand, we see a body of English, who have recently emerged successful from a great war, in which they swept their enemies from all seas; whose (literally) brothers and cousins are administrators and rulers of the Indian Empire; who are fully conscious of their superiority over those who, for their part, assert their own superiority; and who have now reached the stage of having determined that they shall enjoy in Canton the same freedom and the same privileges as would be enjoyed by Chinese in London. Between two such diverse views, conflict was inevitable. What the Chinese did not see was that the inrush of the foreigner was not to be kept out by any artificial dams; what the Committee did not realize was that only military force could make the Chinese yield to their demands.

APPENDIX AB

Order from the Governor [Viceroy], communicated by the Nanhaeheen on the subject of Eight Restrictions on Foreigners. Dated 12th, received 20th May, 1831.

Puan, the Nanhaeheen, etc. hereby issues an order to the Hong Merchants with which they are required to make themselves fully acquainted. A Communication has now been received from the Kwangchowfoo, which being opened is as follows :

' On the 19th day of the 2d Moon of the 11th Year of Taoukwang (March 9, 1831) a communication was received from Kwei the Poochingsze, stating that on the 9th day of the 2nd moon of the 11th year of Taoukwang (February 27) he had received the following communication from Le the Cabinet Minister and Governor.

' It appears that on the 6th day of the 2d moon of the 11th Year of Taoukwang (Feby. 24th) I, the Governor, united with Choo, the Fooyuen and Chung the Hoppo, in sending a respectful Memorial to the Emperor, explaining old regulations, intended to guard against outside barbarians, and deciding on the circumstances that required modification by addition or diminution. Besides waiting till the Vermillion Pencil's reply be received, when it shall be respectfully recorded and communicated, I also take the original of the memorial to his Majesty and communicate it forthwith. When sent to the Sze, let him pass it to the Foo, to deliver to the Hien, that he may make it known to the local civil and military officers, and may also order the Hong Merchants to act in obedience to it. Oppose not.' Accompanying is a Copy of the original Memorial.

I, the Nanhaeheen, having received this forthwith issue a copy of it, for obedience thereto. When it reaches the said Merchants, let them immediately obey, and act according to the tenor thereof. Oppose not. A special order—

Annexed is a copy of the original Memorial.

Dated, Taoukwang 11th Year 4th moon 1st day.

May 12th 1831.

Regulations to guard against foreigners proposed to the Emperor by Governor Le, Deputy Governor Choo and Hoppo Chung, in Council. February 24th 1831, Communicated to foreigners by

an order of Government dated May 12th. Received at Macao May 20th.

A memorial to explain old regulations intended to guard against outside barbarians, and also certain deliberations to modify them by additions and diminutions, that the same may be obeyed and kept. Looking up we pray for the sacred glance at the business.

Canton Provincial City being near the Coast and the place where foreign ships go and come, it is extremely fitting that the guard against them and watch over them should be perfectly complete and close.

During the reign of Kienlung the English foreign merchants having violated the prohibitions of the Celestial Empire, the then Governor Le-she-yaou [1] proposed to the Emperor and had enacted five regulations to guard against outside barbarians which were available to keep them under control: but through length of days they have gradually been neglected and the execution of them relaxed.

In the 9th year of Taoukwang the English foreign merchants having long deferred entering the Port because they solicited a diminution of the Port charges and again last year having secretly taken foreign women to live in the Factories, and by stealth conveyed them to Canton, which things were reported to the Emperor at the time, although the said foreigners repented and did not end as they had begun with perverted opposition; still the disposition of Barbarians being deceitful and crafty, it is absolutely necessary to carry into effect with severity the inhibitory orders and to strengthen the guards against them.

But as to the old regulations that were enacted, present and former circumstances are different; and there are some points which require consideration and modification to suit the times, and then the whole may be obeyed and kept.

We, calling to our aid the Treasurer and Judge with the old regulations [and] deliberated on the modifications which the times require—and have charged the civil and Military Officers; the soldiers and police to exert themselves in keeping up a constant patrole and guard. And have required the Hong Merchants and Linguists to be faithful in examining and searching into what is going on. Thus when strictness inside has become a habit—or established customs inside are enforced with strictness—disturbances from outside barbarians will be eradicated: and, seemingly the principles of a good Charioteer in restraining and soothing his horse will be more thoroughly carried into effect.

Having reverently associated with us the Hoppo Chung, we unitedly present with profound respect this Memorial, and send

[1] Tradition says that this Governor had a share in Puankhequa's house.

a fair Copy of the Eight regulations which have been deliberated on for the Emperor's inspection—prostrate praying for His Majesty's Sacred perusal and instructions.

A Copy of the original regulations to guard against foreigners, together with the alterations which have now been made and arranged under eight topics is hereby reverently presented for His Majesty's perusal.

1st. Foreign Merchants must not remain over the Winter at Canton. This is an old regulation that should be modified to keeping up at all times a guard against them.

When this regulation was originally framed the foreign Ships came to Canton and anchored during the 5th and 6th moons: during the 9th or 10th they returned to their respective Countries, they were not allowed to remain in Canton City to find out the price of goods; to make purchases and acquire profit; and to go backwards and forwards having intercourse with Native Chinese, which originated traitorous connexions. If the goods in their Hongs were not all sold, and they wished for the time being to live at Macao they were permitted to suit their convenience.

On searching it is found that in the time of Kienlung the foreign vessels which came to Canton did not exceed 30 or 40, but now they amount to 70 or 80, or even 100.

Of late years the English Company's Barbarian Ships have arrived in succession during the 7th or 8th moons, and having exchanged their Cargoes, have left the Port in the 12th moon, or onward to the 1st and 2nd moons of the ensuing Year.

The said Nation's Company's Chief and foreign merchants, after the Company's ships were gone and affairs completed requested permits to go to Macao and reside there, till the 7th or 8th moons when the said Nation's merchant ships came to Canton Province and then they requested permits to go up to Canton City to superintend the Commerce.

Exclusive of these, there are the several Nations of India and America whose foreign Ships come to Canton. Their trade is coming and going at uncertain intervals, by no means like the English Company's. Of these under one Man's name there may be one or two ships in a Year that come to Canton; or three or four ships, or an individual may have no ship at all, but only goods consigned to him to sell in some other ship. These foreign Merchants all remain at Canton to manage their affairs. As the foreign ships are now double what they were formerly, and the time of their anchoring is uncertain—beside, as they have remained at Canton, transacting their Commercial Affairs, for many years with mutual tranquillity, it is doubtless unnecessary

to restrict them positively to the 9th or 10th moon to return to their own Country.

Hereafter if foreign Merchants do indeed arrive early at Canton City and all their goods be sold, then according to the old regulations, let them reverse their oar at the appointed time, but if they arrive late on the 8th or 9th moons, and require time to sell their goods, let the Hong Merchants be charged to keep a strict oversight and control over the foreign Merchants residing in Canton. At the same time dealing justly to make haste to pay the price of things; not being allowed to contract debts and persist in delaying.

Let the foreign Merchants of all Nations when their goods are sold and business finished—whatever the time may be go home with their Ships or go down to Macao and reside there: they must not intentionally delay their departure. By this modification, foreigners will all be prevented from lingering long in Canton, and traitorous Natives will rarely have a pretext for forming illegal connexions.

2nd. Borrowing foreign Merchants money—it is right to eradicate the evil of contracting debts.

When the regulations were originally established native merchants violated prohibitions by borrowing money of foreign Merchants, and strung on, being led by hooked connexions. At that time their offences were punished according to the law for 'Forming connexions with foreign nations and borrowing money to defraud'. The money borrowed was prosecuted for and confiscated.

This old law against Hong Merchants' borrowing money of foreign Merchants was long strictly acted on. But the Hong Merchants when foreign Merchants left the port, eventually made a vague statement (whether they were indebted for balances or not) that affairs were concluded. These are unworthy of credit and the gloss should be done away with.

Hereafter beside prosecuting and punishing according to law the Hong Merchants who borrow money of foreigners and string on and are led by hooked connexions with them—the foreign Merchants who trade with Hong Merchants must be made every year, when their affairs are concluded, to give in to the Hoppo, a voluntary written declaration, for his examination, whether there be any outstanding claims or not. Then should the Hong Merchant fail, the foreign claims which have been previously reported will be paid by instalments, those that have not been reported, even if prosecuted for, will not receive any attention from Government.

And it must be ordered that all balances due by Hong Merchants must be paid within three months. Procrastination will

not be permitted and when they are paid the foreign Merchant's receipt must be presented to Government and preserved on record. If payment be not made within the limited period, it is allowed to the foreign merchant to prosecute. If he does not choose to prosecute he may do as he pleases ; but if he prosecute after the period has expired, Government will pay no attention to his claims. This is to eradicate the trick of old and new claims being made to radiate upon each other.

3rd. The original interdict was to prevent foreign Merchants having Natives to serve them. This requires a little modification. The original regulations ran thus. That foreign Merchants living in the factories were strictly interdicted from employing any other Natives than Linguists and Compradores.

It is found by research that of the Natives who have been given to foreigners to serve, there had heretofore been a class denominated Shawăn [1] (quasi dicat Sand Literate) these have long been interdicted and it is right, still to act according to the old prohibitions, and severely interdict them. But recently the foreign Merchants of various Nations who have come hither have much increased. They continually require people to look after their goods ; to watch their gates ; to carry water and to carry goods, and the black demon Slaves which the foreign Merchants bring are by nature very stupid and fierce ; if they (the foreign Merchants) be compelled to use entirely black demon slaves, it is really apprehended that there will be such a large collection of them, that in going out and in they will wrangle with the natives, and the arrangement turn out to be the creation of disturbance.

It is right to request that hereafter the people necessary in the foreign factories, for taking care of Cargo, keeping the gate, carrying water, and carrying goods be hired by the Compradore from among Natives, and he shall report their names and surnames to the Hong Merchants, who, with the said Factory's Compradore, shall be made responsible for searching into what they do and controlling them.

Should any of these people instruct and seduce the foreign Merchants to act traitorously, let the Hong Merchants and Compradore report them to Government and request that they might be prosecuted.

4th. After the foreign Merchants enter the port and anchor, let there be at that place as heretofore Military Officers and soldiers appointed to search and examine. In the Hong Merchants factories where foreigners live—let them be under the restraint and control of the Hong Merchant, to prevent disturbances.

The regulations originally enacted were, that when the foreign

[1] Shawăn is the Chinese mode of pronouncing the English word 'servant'.

ship had entered the Port and anchored at Whampoa, Military Officer and twelve soldiers should be sent from the Kwangheep ; these were to construct a mat shed and keep guard. A Military Officer was also to be selected sent from the Suhpeaou, to search and examine—And from the adjacent Military Station a row boat was to be sent, to unite with another boat sent from the left wing of the middle division in searching and examining. After the Ship left the Port they were to be recalled. In these arrangements there is no occasion to make any change. But from length of days these orders are considered mere form. It is right to make continually a secret search, and if the Military become remiss and steal repose, to punish them severely forthwith.

As to foreign Merchants lodging in Hong Merchants factories, it has heretofore been made the duty of Hong Merchants to govern and control them. The purchases of goods made by them must pass through the hands of a Hong Merchant. This was originally designed to guard against the traitorous Natives misleading them, teaching them and egging them on. Hereafter the foreign Merchants dwelling in the Hong Merchants Factories, must not be allowed to presume of their own accord to go out and in, lest they should Trade and carry on clandestine transactions with traitorous Natives.

The boats on Canton river in which they go must not be allowed to set sail and go fast ; lest they rush against Native boats on the River and wrangle and quarrel. They must not be allowed to wander about the Villages and Market places near Canton in order that bloody affrays may be prevented.

5th. Foreigners clandestinely taking foreign females to dwell in the factories, and at Canton, their ascending to sit in shoulder chariots (sedan chairs) must both be interdicted.

It is found on enquiry that the foreigners of every Nation bringing wives and women servants to Canton City to dwell has long been strictly interdicted ; but last year the English Chief violated the laws and brought them. They have already been expelled and driven back to Macao. It is found out that the woman he brought to Canton, was brought by the said foreign Merchant from his own Country. The women servants who followed them were Portuguese of Macao hired to serve.

Hereafter it is right to issue strict orders to the Chief foreign Merchants of every Nation disallowing them bringing foreign women to Canton to reside. If they are wilfully to disobey then trade will be forthwith stopped, and they immediately sent under escort to Macao. At the same time let it be made the duty of Custom house Cruizers, officers and soldiers in the event of meeting foreigners carrying females to Canton to intercept them and send them back.

Further let orders be given to the Tungche of Macao to transmit orders to the Portuguese foreign Headman Weileto, and the Fanchae (or foreign Envoy) that hereafter other foreigners hiring women to serve are allowed to reside at Macao only—it is not allowed to the Macao Authorities to permit them being taken to Canton. If there be disobedience to this Order—Weileto alone will be responsible.

As to foreigners using chairs in Canton, it all arose from traitorous vagabonds giving them, and chair-bearers coveting gain. Besides ordering foreigners of every Nation to Yield obedience and that hereafter they must not at Canton City ascend the shore in Sedan Chairs; let it be strictly interdicted for traitorous Merchants to give chairs to, or hire chair bearers for foreigners. And if chairmen scheming to obtain gain dare to disobey this order as soon as it is discovered let them be seized and severely prosecuted.

6th. It is right to make it a duty of Custom house Cruizers officers and soldiers, with more strictness and care to interdict and prevent foreigners from conveying musketts and guns to Canton.

The interdict against foreigners bringing muskets or guns with them to Canton was originally very strict; but last year there was a foreigner who suddenly and by stealth conveyed muskets and guns to a foreign factory in Canton, violating in an extreme degree old regulations. Hereafter let it be the duty of Custom house Cruizers Officers and soldiers, to be faithful in endeavouring to find out such attempts, and if foreigners should by stealth convey guns or other arms to Canton City to the foreign factories, immediately to intercept them and not allow their proceeding. If the Officers and soldiers fail in discovering such attempts; or if, still worse, should they know of them and connive at them, let the said Officers and men be immediately brought up, tried and sentenced.

7th. In case of English Company's Captains[1] going backwards and forwards in boats; and foreign Merchants cargo vessels receiving clearances to quit the Port, it is right to obey the standing regulations.

Of the foreign ships that trade the Company's Captains, when it occurs that they have public business to attend to, go backward and forward in Sanpan boats, to interdict and stop which is difficult. It is right to allow them as heretofore to go in boats. If they carry contraband goods, let the Custom house officers and soldiers examine strictly and report for the management of the Affair. But heretofore, there must be a foreign headman or Captain in her before a Sanpan boat is allowed to go with a flag

[1] Skippers.

set. If there be no headman or ship Captain in her it must not be allowed, irregularly to sail a boat with flag—Still let the old regulation be adhered to [to] prevent confusion.

In going from Macao to Whampoa and Canton and from Canton to Whampoa and Macao, let a permit [1] be requested. They must not go and come when and as they please. Doing so will be an offence that will be enquired into.

As to foreign Merchants Cargo Vessels receiving a Red Chop (or Clearance) to quit the Port, heretofore application has been made to the Custom House. Let it still be the duty of the Custom House to inform the forts on every such occasion, that they may examine and let go, and so stoppages and disturbances be prevented.

8th. It is necessary to make arrangements concerning foreigners presenting Petitions: whether a distinction would not be made in Affairs of importance, and it be settled when they must be presented for them and when they themselves may present them.

There must be explicit and fixed regulations determining whether the Hong Merchants are to present Petitions for foreign Merchants or they are to present them themselves; then a confused way of acting, and one exceeding what is proper may be prevented. Let an order be issued to the English and other foreign Merchants requiring their obedience thereto,—that hereafter, if any very important affair occur, which it is absolutely necessary to convey to the Governor's Office, let the Petition be delivered to the Senior Hong Merchant or Security Merchant to present it for them. It is not allowed that foreigners should presume to go to the City Gate and present it themselves. If the Senior Merchant or Security Merchant persist in intercepting it, and will not present it for them, so that foreign affairs cannot be stated to Government, it is then permitted for foreigners to carry the Petition to the City Gate and deliver it to the Military Officer on Guard. When they present a Petition one or two foreigners only are allowed to proceed with it. They are not allowed to take a number of men with them to blazon abroad the Affair.

If the business be of a common place nature, and the Hong Merchants have not refused to present it for them; or the topic be one which it was improper to present; then the foreigner who shall perversely offend and take a number of people to the City Gate to present a Petition, that foreign Merchants trade shall forthwith be stopped one Month, and he be disallowed to buy or sell any goods, thereby to chastise his disrespect.

Petitions concerning ordinary topics of Trade, must be presented at the Hoppo's Office; and ordinary Petitions con-

[1] A Red Chop.

cerning local occurrences must be presented to the Macao Tungche, or the Heangshan Hien; or the Macao Tsotang—in all which cases it is allowed to appeal as usual.

APPENDIX AC

To His Excellency The Governor [Viceroy]
,, The Fooyuen
,, The Hoppo

This with deep regret that we are compelled under existing circumstances to address Your Excellency—but certain events have lately occurred in Canton which leave us no other alternative.

The British Factory was a few days ago, visited without any previous intimation by their Excellencies the Fooyuen and Hoppo with their armed Attendants. Our Chinese Servants fled at their approach. Our public Hall was forcibly entered, a Chinese Linguist seised for his alledged connection with us thrown into chains in the Hall, and threatened with immediate Death.

The Gates leading from the River to the Factory have since we are given to understand by His Excellency the Fooyuen's order, been torn down, the flight of steps removed, the quay on which goods are landed demolished, the Trees in the garden uprooted, the place laid waste—and the work of devastation still going forward.

These occurrences have taken place without any reason assigned—after the Commercial affairs of the season were concluded in tranquillity and while we were peaceably residing at Macao with a resolution as far as in us lay to preserve unimpaired our pacific Intercourse with this Country.

We have no means at present of protecting our property against aggression we therefore abandon it and have transmitted to his Excellency the Fooyuen the keys of the British Factory in Canton. We beg most respectfully but at the same time most distinctly to state that subjected to such occurrences we cannot conduct our Intercourse with China, which if exposed to such acts must terminate at an early date.

We have the honor to remain with high consideration
Your Excellency's most obedient Servants
May 19th 1831. (signed) By the Committee.

Notice

Several recent acts of the Chinese Government have compelled the President and Select Committee to intimate to the Authorities in Canton that while exposed to them, it is impossible that Commercial Intercourse could continue, and to acquaint the British Community that unless the evils complained of were

removed or security against their recurrence obtained, such Intercourse would of necessity be suspended on the 1st of August next.

The acts of the Chinese Government which the Select Committee have adopted as the grounds of this proceeding are the following.

The seizure close imprisonment and subsequent death of a Hong Merchant, his alledged crime being his ' traitorous connection ' with the English. No association ever did take place with this merchant except of an extensive commercial nature, and in his mercantile dealings he proved himself an intelligent and most industrious man.

The recent attack made upon the British Factory in Canton by their Excellencies the Fooyuen and Hoppo (in the absence of the Governor, the principal Officers of the Canton Government) accompanied by a numerous body of armed attendants, without any previous intimation of their intentions ; the forcible entry of the public Hall of the Factory, the abandonment of the Factory by all Chinese Servants who fled under the greatest alarms ; the tearing down of the covering from the King of England's picture, which was otherwise treated with indignity ; the threatening the Senior Hong Merchant with imprisonment and death, and the compelling him and others who were present, to remain for upwards of an hour upon their knees on account of their connection with the English ; the seizure of the Senior Linguist, who was thrown into chains in the Company's Hall, and orders given for his execution, which was only suspended on the repeated intercession of the Hoppo and Hong Merchants, when he was committed to prison; the breaking down of the Gates of the Factory leading to the river, the destruction of the Quay, built by the express sanction of the Governor of Canton, the demolition of the Walls, the uprooting of Trees, and general devastation of the property.

The Death of the Hong Merchant above stated, and the occurrences briefly mentioned, have taken place since the commercial business of the season was concluded in perfect tranquility, and while the President and Select Committee were residing at Macao, resolute in their determination to leave no means in their power untried to preserve a pacific intercourse with this Country. Two members of the Select Committee proceeded to Canton to seek redress from these acts of the Government. Their remonstrance has been unattended to, and the demolition of the Company's property is going forward, the natives employed continuing at Work during the night—Further intimation has been given to the Select Committee that these were only the Commencement of a course of proceedings of a similar character,

and a Proclamation has been received by them, issued in the name of the Principal Officers of the Canton Government, interdicting the employment of native Servants, and the presentation of Petitions at the City Gates, precluding all communication with Canton by means of foreign boats, and ordering bodies of Chinese Soldiers to act as a guard on the Ships at anchor at the Whampoa. The Proclamation is accompanied by a threat that should foreigners decline submitting to the commands of the Government 'they will be expelled from the Country, and for ever prohibited from coming to Canton for the purposes of Commerce'.

The Select Committee abstain from adverting to minor grievances. The foregoing they regret to think are more than sufficient to justify them in the course which they are compelled to pursue. They will deem it their duty immediately to communicate the state of Affairs of this Country to the Supreme Government of India. They refrain from attempting to characterise the acts which they complain of. Under the influence of the most pacific disposition, their present decision is the result of calm and deliberate consideration. They feel confident in the support of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, who, guided by mature judgement will discern that the credit and security of their Commerce cannot under such circumstances be maintained, and should an appeal be made to His Majesty's Government, they are equally confident that British national character and commercial interests in China will be too plainly seen to be inseparably associated to admit of the possibility of their being with safety disunited.

Published by order of the President and Select Council.

British Factory
Macao 20th May 1831. } (signed) R. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

NOTICE

From the disposition which has been recently shewn in various acts of the Canton Government the President and Select Committee are under apprehension, that British Commerce with China cannot be conducted with credit or security while it remains exposed to them. They do therefore as Representatives of the British Nation in China give this public Notice that, should the evils complained of remain unremoved, all commercial intercourse between the two Countries will be suspended on the first of August Next.

By order of the Select Committee

British Factory.
Macao 19th May 1831. } (signed) H. H. LINDSAY, Secy.

APPENDIX AD

To the Honble Sir CHARLES THEOPHILUS METCALFE, Bart., Vice President in Council, Fort William.

HONBLE SIR,

When we last had the honor to address the Supreme Government on the state of our relations with the Chinese Authorities it was our agreeable duty to have to mention that a prospect existed of a period of uninterrupted tranquility, and to offer our assurances, that no means in our power should be wanting to accomplish so desirable an end.

2. It is with much regret, we are now compelled to communicate by Express, that Affairs in this Country have recently assumed a very different aspect and character, nor are we conscious, that any exertions in our power have been left untried to avert or to mitigate the evil.

3. During the course of the past season a Hong Merchant was seized and imprisoned by the Canton Government, his alledged crime being his ' traitorous connection ' with the English. His connection with Foreigners was purely of a Commercial character. His Dealings conducted according to the established Laws of the Empire, was extensive, and by being one of the most industrious, he had become one of the most prosperous of the Body to which he belonged. We were deterred from remonstrating against his unjust imprisonment by the apprehension of his Relations, that our doing so would probably precipitate his execution, from the ignimony (*sic*) of which or at least of perpetual banishment, he was lately relieved by Death, while under the most rigid confinement. Painful as such a circumstance necessarily became to our feelings, yet being resolved to sacrifice all individual or personal consideration when such could possibly be done without injury to the public service we abstained from exciting the irritation of the Chinese Government by addressing it on the subject of this melancholy and we believe to it embarrassing event. In placing the strictest restraint upon our feeling by passing over this occurrence in silence we were conscious at the same time, that a blow had been inflicted of the most serious nature on the credit and security of our Commerce.

4. Our Commercial transactions of the season terminated with Tranquility. Such addresses as we transmitted to the Chinese Authorities were received with attention and since our residence at Macao no opportunity has been omitted of cultivating the courtesies of Life with Local Mandarins, several of whom have paid visits of civility to the President. Under such circumstances we were but little led to expect the recent occurrences in Canton.

5. On the 12th instant the Fooyuen and Hoppo, who are in the absence of the Governor the principal Officers of the Province, accompanied by a numerous body of armed attendants landed at the British Factory without any previous intimation of their intentions, and took possession of the Public Hall. Our Factories have hitherto been considered safe against such intrusion without notice previously given. The covering was torn down from His Majesty's picture, which their Excellencies deemed proper to treat with the most marked disrespect. The Senior Hong Merchant was summoned into the Hall, threatened with immediate imprisonment and death on account of his connection with the English and compelled to remain for upwards of an hour upon his knees. The Senior Chinese Linguist for the same alledged cause was thrown into chains and ordered for execution, which was remitted for imprisonment principally on the intercession of the Hoppo. The outer Gates of the Factory were pulled down and broken to pieces. The Quay on which goods are landed, built by the express sanction of the Governor of Canton has been completely destroyed. The trees in front of the Factory uprooted, the ground generally laid waste, and the greater part of it dug up and thrown into the river.

6. We have received intimation that these are only the commencement of proceedings of a similar character and a Proclamation has since been issued in the name of the principal Authorities containing several enactments of the most vexatious kind, amongst others, the prohibition of foreigners going out of the Doors of their Factories without special permission previously obtained—the interdicting the employment of native servants, the ordering the punishment of those at present employed and the appointment of a guard of soldiers to ships at anchor at Whampoa. We abstain from attempting to characterise these proceedings:—indeed from their commencement, we have resolved to refrain from anything like the expression of angry feeling but to let every measure we are compelled to adopt be the result of calm and mature deliberation.

7. We are at a loss to account for these acts of the Chinese Government. In some measure they must be attributed to the Discussions of 1829/30, and to events which followed; but a resolute and systematic determination is now formed to reduce foreigners to the lowest and most restricted possible condition and against which we have only the alternative left of tacit acquiescence or of temperate yet firm remonstrance and resistance.

8. In the position in which we were thus most involuntarily placed we naturally looked around for the most available means of removing or mitigating the evils to which we were subjected.

Immediate remonstrance was tried and failed. Two Members of the Select Committee proceeded to Canton to seek redress from existing grievances but their application remained unattended to, and the destruction of the Company's property continued, several hundred natives being employed on the work of devastation and not even intermitting their labors during the night. It then became imperative on us to evince our determination to resist the course which the Chinese Government seemed equally resolved to pursue. We addressed the principal Authorities in respectful but distinct terms declaring the impracticability of continuing British Intercourse with this Country while subjected to such acts and that unless the evils complained of were remedied it would be suspended at an early date.

The keys of our Factory were at the same time delivered to the Hong Merchants to be transmitted to the Fooyuen stating that having no present power to protect our property we abandoned it—a simultaneous Notice was given to British Subjects that unless the evils which we complained of were remedied British Intercourse with China would be suspended on the first of August next. Several Copies of this Notice accompanies our present Despatch. By adopting this course we afford to the Chinese Government an ample period for reflection, we bind ourselves to no definite course of measures, and our objects we trust will be accomplished without the sacrifice of those important interests which it is our most anxious desire to protect. It is with considerable satisfaction we find that the Foreign Mercantile Community in China is declaredly in favor of the measures which we have adopted, and what has rarely if ever been the case on former occasions, the native public mind has from several facts which have reached us, evinced its disapproval and regret at the aggressive measures of its Government.

9. Having thus exhausted every means in our present power to avert the evils with which we are threatened, we naturally turn to the Supreme Council of India for that powerful assistance which it is capable and which in such emergency we feel confident it will prove itself willing to afford us.

10. The fate of all foreign Embassies to this Country must be well known to your Honble Board. The connection of Russia with China is of a peculiar character. Portugal England and Holland are the only other European Countries which have sent State Embassies to China. These though conducted on different principles and by men of various talents have all, by whatever spirit directed, whether of abject compliance with degrading requisitions or resistance to assumed Supremacy, been equally unsuccessful in the attainment by means of negociation of important objects. The first English Embassy was conducted

by a man probably of more varied experience than ever filled a public situation. Lord Macartney in addition to his knowledge of European Courts had filled the responsible Offices of Governor of the Cape of Good Hope and of Madras and was deemed deserving of being nominated to the distinguishable situation of Governor General of India. Lord Amherst possessed the advantage of having associated with him men of superior talent and local intelligence to what any European Ambassador to China had previously enjoyed. Yet both the English Embassies except we believe in making a favorable impression of the British character failed entirely in their objects. The Chinese Government never will voluntarily receive an Ambassador in the character which we attach to them. This means of redress of grievances may therefore be considered hopeless while our relations with China continue of their present character.

11. In contemplating the possibility of a requisition to the Government of China being at some future period imperatively necessary—we in our advices to the Court of Directors in the past season expressed our opinion as follows—

'As an Ambassador representing a Foreign Monarch in the capacity of a negociator is a public Functionary, whom the Laws of China do not consent to recognise and as the observances required of him are such as cannot be complied with without the sacrifice of principle we believe your Honorable Court will remain adverse to the repetition of an experiment hitherto ineffectually made by every European power by which it has been attempted, but we are at the same time of opinion that a firm remonstrance from the British Government against the grievances to which its subjects are exposed would not fail to be attended to. The most eligible form and channel of such a remonstrance would we believe be a letter from the Sovereign of England to that of China delivered at Tiensing with instructions to the Bearer of the Letter who would necessarily be a person vested with sufficient powers to conclude such arrangements as might arise out of the measure in question. He should be enjoined to abstain from giving any cause of offense, but equally ordered to submit to no species of insult. Such a channel would we believe be the only medium through which the grievances of British subjects could effectually be made known to the Imperial Government.'

12. The same views which led us to offer this opinion to the Court of Directors now induce us to recommend a remonstrance of a similar character from the Supreme Government of India addressed to the Governor of Canton.

13. It would be unbecoming in us to advert to the terms in which such a remonstrance should be conveyed that we feel satisfied they would be characteristic of the relative situation of

the two Governments. We should suggest the commander of one of His Majesty's Ships as the most appropriate Bearer of such a Dispatch. On occasion of announcing the last Embassy a Letter from Lord Buckinghamshire then President of the Board of Controul was brought to Canton by His Majesty's Ship Orlando and delivered in person to the Governor by Sir Theophilus Metcalfe accompanied by Captain Clavel and Mr. Daniell. The presence of one or more of His Majesty's Ships in China on the commencement of the ensuing season may also be in many respects desirable. We are aware that his Excellency the Governor General is at present in the Northern Provinces we earnestly trust that the decision of the Supreme Government may be formed without the necessity of a reference to his Lordship. Delay might be productive of the most serious injury as the commencement of our Commercial season cannot without much loss and inconvenience be deferred beyond the middle or end of October. We further submit for the consideration of your Honble Board the propriety of addressing a Letter to the Emperor of China to be had recourse to or not as may be necessary. In 1816 a Letter was addressed to the Emperor by Lord Hastings to be delivered should it be found expedient by Lord Amherst. The widely extended Countries which are subject to his Government and their propinquity to the Chinese Territories would afford we believe a better prospect of a Letter from the Governor General of British India being received with attention at Pekin than one from any of the Sovereigns of Europe. We beg further to submit to the consideration of Your Honble Board the propriety of His Excellency the Admiral or some of the other Ships under his command visiting China with a view to possible contingencies which the continued hostility of the Chinese Government may create without any power of prevention on our part. We shall deem it our Duty to acquaint his Excellency with the present posture of Affairs in this Country that he may be prepared for acting in concert with any suggestions which Your Honble Board may be induced to offer him.

14. While we have represented these subjects for your consideration we beg to renew the expression of our most anxious desire if possible to secure a pacific and tranquil state of intercourse with this Country but we should be abandoning our public Duty did we not on this occasion look to every possible result which may proceed from the measures recently adopted by the Chinese Government and their expressed intention to continue to persevere in them. We have seen repeatedly on former occasions such ruinous consequences arise from possible events not being previously contemplated and prepared against that we are at this moment earnestly desirous to place Your Honble

Board in possession of our opinions with the view even to the most serious consequences which may occur from the continued hostility of the Chinese Government and the impossibility of conducting Commerce upon the terms which it prescribes. Even such terms are not to be relied on as they vary with the character of every new Governor of Canton.

15. Should therefore the hostile conduct of the Chinese Government precipitate the termination of pacific intercourse with this Country and leave no other alternative than retaliation we are decidedly of opinion that with little sacrifice of Commercial interests and without any acts of aggression on the unoffending Natives of the Country it could readily be brought to a sense of its own comparative weakness and an intercourse infinitely more favorable be established to any which Foreigners have hitherto enjoyed. This, we believe could be accomplished either with or without the acquisition of an independant settlement. In contemplating the possibility of such an event we offered to the Court of Directors in the past season our opinion as follows—

'The last and most important subject adverted to in the Petition [1] is the possible acquisition at some future period of an independant settlement in China. Such a settlement we believe will never be voluntarily conceded but were an occasion to arise to justify it and were it considered consistent with English policy we are of opinion that an insular possession such as is contemplated might with facility be gained and maintained. In some confirmation of this belief we may mention that a naval settlement, if such an explanation can with propriety be used, has of late Years been made among the Islands on the Mouth of the Canton River in defiance of Chinese prohibitions. The number of vessels at anchor at Lintin is reported twice during every month by the native Pilots to the Government of Canton and an extensive and increasing Foreign Trade is now carried on there under its connivance.'

16. We conscientiously believe that every man who has studied the character of the Government of China will arrive at a similar conclusion to that above expressed. In the Instructions from the Court of Directors to Lord Amherst when deprecating acts of hostility against China until an occasion arose to justify it we find the following opinion expressed. 'But the Chinese would not probably carry their estimate of our magnanimity so far as to expect that if they were by violence to shut us out from their Trade or by a series of oppressive and vexatious proceedings to force us to abandon it we should remain perfectly passive under the great losses and privations that must ensue and they cannot but be aware that nothing would be more easy for us than

[1] Petition to Parliament from British subjects in China.

to take possession of their valuable Islands to the Eastward particularly Formosa and Loo Choo which would enable us to intercept the whole of their Asiatic Trade and to carry terror to the neighbourhood of Pekin itself.'

17. Should a rupture ever take place with the Canton Government we are of opinion that it would be brought to terms with even greater facility than is here contemplated by the Court of Directors—Lord Macartney and nearly every European Writer on the Character of the Chinese has left his opinion strongly recorded to a similar effect. The whole history of our Trade with China leads to the same conclusion and even exhibits numerous instances of acts of undue violence meeting respectful treatment in return from the Government while persons living in obedience to its Laws were suffering from severe and unmerited oppression.

18. We have thus unreservedly endeavoured to offer to your Honble Board our candid opinions in respect to every possible event which may arise from the present hostile disposition of the Chinese Govt. We can only in conclusion assure you that we have no such anxious desire as to secure a peaceful and tranquil intercourse with this Country. Our credit our character and interests depend upon it, but such interests shall never interfere with what we feel to be our public Duty which will now prompt us to avail ourselves of any amicable demonstrations on the part of the Chinese Government but to have our minds at the same time perfectly prepared for its perseverance in that course of measures which it has deemed it expedient so precipitately to commence and which have hitherto been by us ineffectually resisted.

We have, etc.

British Factory
Macao
26th May 1831

(signed) By the Committee.

APPENDIX AE

June 1. Some resolutions adopted by the British Merchants in Canton have been this day forwarded to us, they evince strongly the sense of the Mercantile Community on the present disposition of the Chinese Government and the urgent necessity which prevails for the adoption of the proceedings which we have already recorded.

Resolutions
of the
British Merchants of Canton
Canton 30th May 1831.

The undersigned British Subjects resident in Canton, having seen the recent acts of aggression committed by the Chinese on

the property of the Honorable East India Company and witnessed, with deep regret, the cruel treatment and death of an innocent Hong Merchant on the false charge of traitorous connection with the English ; and the Viceroy and Hoppo having now communicated to them a new and objectionable code for the future regulation of the Commerce of Canton, they have unanimously resolved.

1st. That the Statement, published by the President and Select Committee of the grounds upon which they have come to the determination of stopping the Trade (should satisfaction for past, and security against future aggressions not be granted by the Chinese Authorities) enumerated only a part of the vexatious exactions unceasingly made upon European Commerce in this Country.

2nd. That the new code of regulations for foreign Commerce recently submitted to the Emperor for his approval, in place of alleviating tends materially to aggravate the evils of the arbitrary and obnoxious system under which Commercial intercourse with China has been hitherto with difficulty carried on. That the mere facts of such Regulations having been promulgated would not produce much impression on the minds of the undersigned, it being well known that the Chinese Authorities issue Laws, which they never mean to enforce, but when this code, now delivered to all the Merchants in Canton is joined to the fact of the violent entry of the Company's Factory, the demolition of their property, the gratuitous insult offered to the picture of the King of England, and particularly, the refusal of the local Government to receive any remonstrances or address from the Honorable Company's servants, a deliberate plan to oppress and degrade British Subjects is clearly manifested ; to endure which in silence, would prove them deserving of even the insults they are exposed to.

3rd. They therefore feel it their duty to remonstrate with the members of the Chinese Government, and to appeal to their own Country against yielding to the caprice of the local authorities convinced as they are, that for the ultimate benefit and security of commerce, it were even better to resort to extreme measures of resistance, than to render the trade, each year, more precarious and unproductive by submitting to increased exactions, national injury and constantly recurring petty disputes with the provincial Government of Canton.

4th. That the refusal of the local authorities to receive any communication from the President and Select Committee, thus preventing all amicable adjustment of existing differences, renders it advisable to adopt the most decisive steps, if Great Britain wish to retain any beneficial Commercial intercourse with China, it being apparent from the whole history of foreign inter-

course with this Empire, since Captain Waddell, with a single merchant vessel, in the middle of the seventeenth century took possession of the *Bocca Tigris Fort*, till Sir Murray Maxwell in recent times silenced the same Fort, by one broad side from the 'Alceste', that firmness, resistance, and even acts of violence, have always succeeded in producing a spirit of conciliation, while tame submission has only had the effect of inducing still further oppression.

5th. They, therefore, desire to express their unequivocal approval of the measures lately adopted by the Select Committee, considering them conducive to the general interests of British Commerce with this Country.

APPENDIX AF

NOTICE

The President Etc. Select Committee on the 20th Ultimo gave public notice that 'Several recent acts of the Chinese Government have compelled them to intimate to the Authorities in Canton that while exposed to them, it is impossible that Commercial Intercourse should continue, and to acquaint the British Community that unless the evils complained of were removed or security against their recurrence obtained, such Intercourse would of necessity be suspended on the 1st of August next'.

Since the publication of this intimation the evils of which they complained have assumed an altered and more decided Character having been confirmed by an Imperial Proclamation from Pekin directing the most harassing and restrictive regulations to be imposed upon Foreigners and indirectly countenancing the acts of aggression which have been committed.

The Local Officers of the Canton Government would therefore if appealed to for redress, find immediate Justification under the Sanction of Imperial Authority.

The President Etc. Select Committee do not intend to suspend Commercial Intercourse on the 1st of August next. Their most anxious wish is the establishment of that intercourse upon a firm and respectable basis, which object they feel under existing circumstances they will best accomplish by awaiting the result of the measure which they have adopted and the references they have made. They are bound to consult the deep and valuable Interests entrusted to them, and in doing so they have made every sacrifice of Personal feeling to what they consider to be their Public Duty.

Their Property in Canton remains in the same state of Devastation, they have received no explanation for the acts of aggression committed and indignities offered nor any security against their

recurrence. The new regulations applied to Foreign Trade, have been confirmed by Imperial Authority, and under such circumstances the President Etc. Select Committee regret to state that while the evils which they complain of remain unremedied, they see no prospect of the uninterrupted continuance of British Intercourse with China or of Commerce being conducted either with credit or security. They further offer their recommendation to all British Residents in Canton to exert every means in their Power to recover such Property belonging to them as is at present in possession of Natives of this Country.

By order of the Select Committee.

British Factory
Macao June 10th 1831 } (signed) H. H. Lindsay Sec^{y}.

APPENDIX AG

Extracts from Dispatch of Select Committee to Governor-General of India

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3. It is further to us a source of great satisfaction to find how much our views of the policy desirable to reproduce in this Country, correspond with those of the Supreme Government. We are well aware at the present moment how much the best interests of England militate against any extension of territorial dominion, and that the policy, which unnecessarily led to such an acquisition would justly be condemned. If compelled to resort to an occupation of an insular possession we can only repeat our previously expressed belief to your Lordship, that by a very moderate naval and military force it could be gained and maintained, but the consequences with the history of modern India before us, whose territories, the result of an unavoidable necessity, have continued to encrease, we believe we are justified in saying, in defiance of prohibitions of the British Legislature, it would be impossible for any man to foresee. The state of China and India may be apparently different from the former yielding implicit obedience to one absolute Government, but the materials and interests of this great Empire are in many respects conflicting. The people are in general kept in strict subordination by the superincumbent pressure of despotic power, and by the most wakeful jealousy on the part of the Government, of any diffusion or communion of popular opinion. The Chinese have never been reconciled to the Tartar dominion and Secret Societies are known to exist, whose object is the restoration of the ancient dynasty. Rebellions are also not infrequent and at this moment we are given to understand that insurrections arising from discontent and famine have taken place in several of the Pro-

vinces. An English independent Settlement in China could not fail soon to become the place of refuge for Natives, who escaped from the punishment of their own Laws, Laws probably attempted to be executed against them for their connection with Foreigners. When the opposite nature of the Chinese and European character is considered, brawls and differences between the Parties either among the Islands or on the main land, would be of nearly certain occurrence and the result to which such a state of things would be too likely to lead, your Lordship's discerning mind will readily contemplate.

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8. We shall offer our recommendations to the Admiral, whose high character, and intelligence, we feel assured would suggest to his own mind the expediency of pursuing such a course, that every care should be taken to avoid giving offence to the Government, or prejudices of the Natives, but that any intentional insult should be immediately and adequately resented. An impression has long existed in the Country, that His Majesty's Ships were required by the orders of their own Government to submit to indignity, which has had the worst possible effect in encouraging the very evil, which it was desirable to avoid. The Chinese in common we believe with all Asiatic Governments, are incapable of appreciating the motives of a policy, which suggests moderation in the exercise of power. Though resolute measures will at any time bring them to a sense of their own internal weakness, they will trample upon abject submission, and in their assumed arrogance, are even induced to forget, on how little national power, and strength, they have in the hour of real difficulty and danger to depend. The whole History of European Intercourse political and commercial with China, confirms this opinion. The Portuguese, though on their first appearance on these coasts no better than a horde of marauding pirates, gained through their determined conduct an establishment in the Country; and for one century at least, commanded for themselves some consideration: But the adoption of a wretched and abject policy in connection with the corruption of persons in authority has completely subverted the prosperity of Macao and a once flourishing colony is reduced to a condition of degraded poverty and misery. Foreign embassies to China have one and all been failures, but those most eminently so, which have been conducted on principles of subserviency. Even our own have not been free from such defects, while British in common with other Ambassadors, have invariably professed that their sole end in view, was to offer a compliment to His Imperial Majesty. Men in general, assuredly not those whose objects are the extension of commercial intercourse, do not travel some fifteen or sixteen thousand miles, to

offer a compliment, without looking for some equivalent in return. Chinese penetration is too acute, not to see through such thinly veiled fallacies, but they form a striking contrast to the plain, yet dignified, and intelligible language which characterises your Lordship's Letter to the Emperor of China. From such a Document, should it be deemed necessary to present it, we anticipate the happiest effects.

9. Our Records in this Country bear continued proofs, that a subservient conduct has only incurred degradation while even violence has commanded respectful treatment. In 1808 a notorious native Pirate was graciously received by the Viceroy of the Province, and had official rank conferred upon him, while an English Admiral was for his forbearance threatened by the most contumelious and violent proclamations, and the motives which induced him to despise them, were altogether disregarded.

10. In the year 1781 a Captain MacLary commander of the Country Ship ' Dodaloy ' from Bengal, took violent possession of a Dutch Ship with much valuable property, at anchor, in the Port of Whampoa, defied the Chinese Government and was proceeding to Sea with his prize—When threats towards him were found unavailing the following ingenious arrangement took place through the mediation of the Hong Merchants. The Dutch Prize being near the Bogue Fort, Captain MacLary ordered his people out of her, when she was boarded by a Chinese Mandarin, and Soldiers, in a shouting triumphant manner, as if recaptured by force. In reward of his condescention Captain MacLary was secretly permitted to retain an iron chest, containing pearls and gold to a large value. He had set the Chinese Government at defiance by the capture of a foreign vessel, claiming its protection in the very Port of Canton and was richly rewarded for his violence. In a proclamation issued by the Fooyuen it was stated, that ' Captain MacLary was ignorant that it was wrong to seize a vessel at Whampoa ', but that as he had shewn much ' docility ', he should be allowed all the assistance he might require, and his Ship was even exempted from all Port Charges, during his stay in China, an immunity at that time denied to our Vessels of War. At this period such was the Spirit of the Chinese Govt. towards Foreigners who traded legally, that the Select Committee state, that the Government Proclamations were then, ' in a style so full of boasting insult and threat, as was never before used, to Europeans even in this scene of their humiliation '.

11. The instance of Captain Maxwell in His Majesty's Ship ' Alceste ' forcing his way through the Bogue must be known to your Lordship, an act, at the moment perhaps of questionable policy as the Embassy was then in the Country, and its result unknown, but it is but just to Captain Maxwell, to state that the

event was perfectly successful. The President was present, with the then members of the Select Committee when the Hong Merchants came in a body from the Viceroy to offer their congratulations, upon Captain Maxwell's conduct. On an explanation being required they state, that although fired upon by the Forts the 'Alceste' had not returned a single gun, and that in consequence the Ship had received the Viceroys permission to proceed to Second Bar. A Proclamation dated some days previously was issued conveying this permission and published upwards of eight and forty hours after the 'Alceste' had reached that anchorage.

12. The illegal Trade at Lintin as it is now conducted is a proof at once of the imbecility and corruption of the Local Authorities, who if they had the disposition, have not we believe the means of putting it down. We have briefly alluded to the foregoing particulars as indicative of the peculiar character of the Chinese Government, though the motives by which it is in general influenced, are in some measure common to despotisms in every quarter of the World. When Europeans first visited the Coast of China, the feeling of its natives towards them, arising from their lawless conduct, was one perhaps partly of contempt; in later years principally from Chinese knowledge of British power, it has become one of jealousy and apprehension. They are well aware of the extent of the dominions subject to your Lordships Government, but the same causes which create a sensation of dread, are likely to produce an anxiety on their part to preserve an amicable intercourse; and they cannot but be aware how much the interests of a large and flourishing portion of the population are promoted by Foreign Commerce. We believe however at the same time the Government of Pekin would never place these advantages in competition with the preservation unimpaired of their native Institutions, and possessing within the limits of the Empire, nearly every variety of Climate, and the necessaries and luxuries of life arising from successful agriculture and extensive inland Commerce, there is perhaps no nation in the world, so independent as China of communication with the rest of mankind.

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15. Your Lordship has observed that such a measure as the forcible occupation of an Island you conclude would not be resorted to, unless under the necessity of providing for our personal safety, but we have ever considered that our national name and reputation was in China sufficient moral protection, nor even, were His Majestys Vessels engaged in actual hostilities with those of the Country should we hesitate to remain in our Factories, with two hundred Sailors from our Ships to defend them.

16. After having accomplished all attainable points at Canton,

should it be desirable to employ it, we have still your Lordship's Letter to the Emperor to depend on. We have always considered that the presentation of such a Document at one of the Northern Ports, would be most serviceable, not only by attracting the notice of the Imperial Government, but by evincing to the local Authorities here, that we possess such means of appeal against them. As the arrival of His Excellency the Admiral may even for some time be delayed—the season will be much too advanced to render the Port of Tiensing attainable, and the keeping of the Coast during the Winter Season in the Yellow Sea, would be impracticable ; but there are several excellent harbours, amongst which we would specify, Fuchew foo in the Province of Fokien, which in either monsoon might be available. Indeed, we have it in contemplation, to suggest to the Court of Directors, the advantage which might arise from two of their early direct Ships visiting that port. It is in the centre of the Black Tea province and a place of very considerable importance and we indulge some expectation, that by a repetition of such visits and convincing the natives of the advantages which would arise to them from commercial intercourse such intercourse might be gradually established. Our Ships continue to resort to other ports besides that of Canton, for many years after the Imperial Proclamations limited foreign trade to that place, and were only finally prevented from doing so, by the severity of the local transactions.

17. We believe that the Chinese people are very far from inimical to [the] British connection, and that a hostile feeling has only sprung from the jealousy of the Government. Should it appear desirable the President will himself proceed to the Northward and be the bearer of your Lordship's Letter. While remaining on board of our Ships in any Port on the Coast we should feel perfectly secure, we continue if we may be permitted the expression, to stand upon English Ground, and do not come into collision about ceremonies or otherwise with native prejudices. Whether here or to the Northward, we conceive one great object ought to be to satisfy the Chinese that ambitious views, or acquisition of territorial dominion, are completely at variance with English policy.

18. It may possibly be unknown to your Lordship, as his services were never appreciated as they deserved, that Mr. Flint a most intelligent and enterprising Member of the Factory, in the year 1759, proceeded to the Northward, with the view of keeping open the several Ports to which British Ships had been previously admitted. At the risk of intruding upon your Lordships valuable time, we will briefly state the particulars of this transaction, which if followed up with the same spirit in which it was undertaken could not have failed to have been successful.

19. In 1759 a Letter from the Select Committee to the Court of Directors communicated the privation of the Trade with Limpo. Little doubt existed that the Viceroy of the place, who had previously been at Canton, had received large bribes from the Hong Merchants to exert every influence which he possessed in excluding Europeans from the other Ports of the Empire. The natives of the more northern provinces, whose foreign intercourse had never been extensive, were in all likelihood inimical to it, from a jealousy of any interference with the Trade, which they themselves carried on with Cochin China, Siam, Cambodia, and the Islands of the Eastern Archipelago—such were the exactions and arbitrary impositions of the Canton Government, that it became most desirable to make some effort to keep other Ports open to Europeans. With this view Mr. Flint, a member of the Factory well versed in the Chinese Language, and who on repeated occasions, proved himself a most active and intelligent public Servant, proceeded with two Ships to Limpo. This gave great umbrage at Canton, and the Supra Cargoes, at a personal conference with the Viceroy, were told by him, that Mr. Flint should suffer from his severe resentment on his return. A knowledge that one of the leading objects of this Gentleman was to represent the grievances of Foreigners at Canton, to the Government of Pekin, naturally excited this feeling of animosity against him. On his arrival at Limpo, all supplies of provisions were denied, and he was informed by the Authorities of the place, that no Trade with Europeans could be admitted at that Port. Mr. Flint with that decision which formed a striking part of his character, immediately proceeded to Tien-Sing, which may be considered the Port of Pekin and delivered to the principal Mandarine of the Place a Memorial to the Emperor which was at his request immediately transmitted.

20. The Imperial Government ordered a *Ta-jin*[1] (a man of high rank) to proceed to Canton, and Mr. Flint was directed to join him on his route, and proceed with him by land. This enterprising Gentleman thus enjoyed the distinction of being the first British Subject who travelled through the interior of the Chinese Empire, and under circumstances highly honorable to himself. An express was at the same time forwarded to the Chung-quan of the province of Fokien to proceed without delay to Canton, and on his arrival there to suspend the Hoppo, (which orders were carried into effect) and to remain there until the arrival of the Tajin and Mr. Flint when the Chung-quan Ta-jin and Viceroy of Canton were to sit in judgment on the Hoppo and report their proceedings to the Emperor.

21. This preliminary success from the measure of an appeal to

[1] Ta-ch'en, Imperial High Commissioner.

the Emperor evinces the advantage which would be likely at any time to arise from such being made to the Imperial Government, and although the sequel was most disastrous, yet it is equally to be attributed to the corruption of Chinese, and subserviency of British Authorities. Mr. Flint appears to have been on the best possible terms with his travelling companion, and on his arrival at Canton he resided for nearly a fortnight in the City, a privilege which no foreigner had previously enjoyed, when he was informed that the accusations against the Hoppo were substantiated, and he returned to his Situation in the Factory. A few days afterwards, the three above mentioned Mandarins received all the foreign Representatives, who presented addresses, describing the hardships to which they had been subjected. 'These three great men say the then Select Committee repeated to us, what they before said to Mr. Flint, they told us that the Hoppo was deposed and another would soon be appointed; The following impositions were immediately taken off. The three Pr. Cent on all Sycee Money, paid into the Hoppo's House for Duties which was laid on under pretence of making up the deficiency of the Canton Weights with those of Pekin, the increase of Duties from Foshan to Canton, the charge of going from or coming to Macao, the presents to the Hoppo Houses on the Ships going away, the fees from Compradores and Linguists, and every other imposition except the 1,950 Tales, and six pr Cent: they go to the Emperor and have certainly been misrepresented. We are firmly of opinion these would be remitted, as well as to allow us to pay our own Duties were it possible to get them properly represented, we are well assured he is extremely disposed to favor us.'

22. Up to this period Mr. Flint's exertions were eminently successful, but this appears only to have been a deceitful calm before a gathering storm. It proved however the powerful effect in the first instance of an appeal to the Emperor. Bribery and corruption were in the mean time exerting their secret power, and the money of the Hong Merchants, derived directly from their profits on foreign Trade, was not wanting to overturn that influence, which the English Factory appeared to have established with the Government. But the sudden change in the aspect of affairs will be best stated in the words of the then Select Committee. 'Since writing the above, the Viceroy desired to see Mr. Flint as the Merchants informed us, to let us know the Emperor's orders relating to our affairs. We desired to go into the City, which was allowed of. On coming to the Viceroy's palace, the Merchants proposed our going in one at a time; We told them, that as it was on the Company's affairs, [if] Mr. Flint was called we must all be present. We were received by a Mandarin

at the first gate, and proceeded through two Courts with seeming compliance from the Officers in waiting. On our coming to the gate of the inner Court of the Palace, our swords were forced from us, we were then hurried on to the Viceroy's presence and there under the pretence, as we apprehended of making us pay homage, after their Custom, they endeavoured to compel us to do it, and at last threw us down, when the said Viceroy seeing us resolute, and determined, on no account to submit to these base humiliations, ordered his people to desist. He then gave orders to Mr. Flint to advance to him. He pointed to an order, which he said was the Emperor's Edict for his banishment to Macao for three years, and then to return to England, never more to come to China. The Viceroy told us that our Complaint against the Hoppo was true, that the Emperor was pleased with it, and that he was proved to be a very bad man.'

23. 'On the 9th instant, the same account proceeds to state, the French, Swedes Danes and Dutch, met at our Factory when we agreed one and all to tell the Hong Merchants who were then present, that we protested against the proceedings of the Viceroy.' But this was mere declamation employed to the Hong Merchants, who seem to have been aware, that any degradation would be submitted to for the preservation of Trade. It but ill corresponded with the treatment which Mr. Flint the active and intelligent agent in these transactions was compelled to endure. He was imprisoned at Tseen Shan, a small village adjacent to Macao, 'locked up in rooms with bars like a cage', and all communication with his Countrymen denied him. He was released after being in prison for a year.

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26. Whether in any discussion which may arise out of the presentation of your Lordship's letter to the Governor of Canton, or should it be necessary from that to the Emperor, it only remains for us again to offer our assurances that we will continue to act upon those principles which your Lordship has so clearly defined. You at least, My Lord, possess the distinction of having placed the British Factory in China in a powerful position, which it has not previously enjoyed, and we indulge a confident expectation, that when the Chinese Authorities are satisfied that the resources of the Supreme Government will be readily afforded, for our assistance and protection in a just cause, they will yield us redress for past, and security against future aggression, and be induced hereafter most cautiously to abstain from it.

We have the honor etc.

British Factory.
China, October 25th 1831.

(signed) By the Committee.

APPENDIX AH

REQUISITION FOR REFORMS, TO BE PRESENTED TO THE VICEROY

To

His Excellency

The Governor of Canton

The very serious acts of aggression committed by your Excellency's predecessor and the injury thereby inflicted on British Property, and interests in China, have, as your Excellency will have perceived in the letter addressed to you by the Governor General of India attracted his grave and deliberate attention. Aware as he is, that the benevolent disposition of His Imperial Majesty, would not sanction on the Part of his Servants, acts of violence and outrage to Foreigners, the Governor General conscious of the high place which your Excellency fills in the favor of your Sovereign indulges every expectation that his commands will be so faithfully executed by you, that justice will ever be rendered to British Subjects, and that the Intercourse which to the advantage of both has long subsisted between the subjects of China, and those of England, may be happily continued.

Anxiously desirous that this may be the case, we submit for your Excellency's consideration the following subjects, without a distinct understanding respecting which, we feel confident an amicable intercourse cannot continue uninterrupted.

We request

1. That your Excellency will give us an assurance, that in future the British Factory and those inhabited by our Countrymen in Canton will not be exposed to entrance or attack by bodies of armed men, or by any persons whatever, without our previous permission.

2. That native Chinese will not be persecuted or punished for alledged 'traitorous connection', with Foreigners, as was the case of the unfortunate Woo-Yay whose only connection with the English was of a Commercial Nature.

3. That a Proclamation should be issued by your Excellency prohibiting acts of insult from Natives towards Foreigners and that those public placards published by low and subordinate people accusing Foreigners of nefarious crimes, and which by their falsehoods encourage insult may be strictly discontinued.

4. That Natives may be permitted to serve Foreigners in the

several capacities of domestic Servants and others, which the extent of their commercial transactions, actually require.

5. That we may be permitted at all times to address your Excellency and the Hoppo, in the Chinese Language, and that an officer of Government be nominated to whom our addresses may be delivered. That it may also be made legal to employ Native Teachers.

6. That on occasions of importance the President and Members of the Select Committee, may be admitted to an audience of the Governor and Hoppo of Canton.

7. That the premises of the British Factory may be restored to the same state in which they were previously to the violent attack of the Foo Yuen, upon them, in the month of May last.

8. That as the number of British Subjects and the extent of British Trade, has of late years so much increased a larger space may be allotted for their residence in Canton, and that the number of additional Streets and Houses granted for this purpose be specified by your Excellency, and that the right of residence be extended to the Honam side of the River.

9. That the ground in front of the Factories should be cleared of the Custom House, lately built there, the Officer of which had previously resided in a Boat, and of the heaps of filth constantly accumulated, and which clearance becomes absolutely necessary for the common purposes of health, air and exercise.

10. That Members of the British Factory, or such of their Country men, as may be licensed by them, may be permitted to proceed to any part of Canton without being exposed to insult.

11. That your Excellency according to your Promise, frequently given, will appoint more Hong Merchants, to the number of fifty, with whom British Subjects may be permitted to Trade. The said Hong Merchants to be created, without paying exorbitant fees to the Hoppo, not to be responsible for the Debts or Duties of each other, and that in the event of the Death or bankruptcy of any one, his vacant place should be immediately supplied. That the Hong Merchants may not be held responsible for the acts of British Subjects, over which they can have no possible controul.

12. That the exorbitant fees exacted from Compradores and Linguists be discontinued and confined to the stipulated sum paid for the Govt. License, and that the sum be specified by your Excellency.

13. That the very heavy and oppressive Port Charges on Ships of our Nation be reduced, and as in a Series of Years, these have been more than doubled by continual exactions, that they be reduced to one half their present amount.

14. That British Subjects be permitted to employ Native

Boats, in bringing Cargoes from Ships, or in passing to and from Macao, on the same terms as Natives, and that they be not subjected to the exorbitant fees, and vexatious detentions now existing.

15. That British Subjects be permitted to pay on all goods imported by them, directly to an Officer, appointed by His Excellency the Hoppo, the Chinese Govt. Duties, and that a List of such Duties be published by your Excellency.

16. That in case of the Death of a Chinese occurring by mere and inavoidable accident, or by the Hand of a British Subject, when defending his person, or property against unjust attack, the life of a British Subject should not in such case be demanded. The President and Select Committee pledge themselves, that should this point of justice be conceded by the Chinese Government to obtain from their own, powers to try, convict, and execute, any British Subject, who shall be found guilty of the murder of a Chinese.

The above requests, which we earnestly make of your Excellency are founded on a knowledge of the benevolent disposition of the Great Emperor of China on the principles of justice and truth, and of that consideration, which the subjects of one civilized Country have a right to expect from another.

Without a compliance with them, we much fear that our intercourse with China, cannot be conducted with credit and security, or without being exposed to continued interruption.

The views and intentions of the British Government have often been very falsely represented. It has no ambition of conquests or of further territorial acquisitions in any part of the world, as its Empire is already so extensive, that it is its policy to diminish rather than to enlarge it. The orders which we have at all times received from the Authorities in England are 'Continue to cultivate an amicable intercourse with the people of China, but never submit to arbitrary oppression'.

These are the principles upon which we will proceed and trust that our present Requests will meet from your Excellency that consideration to which they are entitled.

We have the honor to remain with much respect etc. etc.

British Factory
28th October 1831.

Signed by the Committee.

XCI

VOYAGES OF THE *LORD AMHERST*, THE *JAMESINA* AND THE *SYLPH*, 1832

THE season 1832 opened with the Select Committee composed of Mr. John Francis Davis (President), and Messrs. James Nugent Daniell and Charles Millett. On August 24th, Mr. William Henry Chichely Plowden returned and resumed his post as President; Mr. Millett then dropped off from the Committee.

The books were opened on March 1st with the following balances:

	Tls.	Tls.
Cr. by Silver in treasury, 3,639 dollars		2,620
Factory account		33,569
Teak timber unsold		4,432
Tea in stock, 6,309 piculs		137,952
Hon'ble Company's Sloop		11,602
Dead stock and buildings		21,192
Voyage of the *Lord Amherst*		25,853
Owing by Chinese Merchants		132,285
		369,505
Dr. to Owed to Merchants: Howqua	279,805	
Other Merchants	197,903	
		477,708
Debit balance		108,203

During the season the Company loaded with tea for London 20 ships of 27,764 tons builder's measurement, and for British North America 3 ships of 2,302 tons, a total of 23 ships and 30,066 tons. In addition the Company freighted 3 ships with cotton from India.

The treasury was supplied with funds as follows:

	Dollars.	Dollars.
Sale of imports: English goods, Tls 1,878,897 =		2,609,579
Indian produce, Tls. 1,029,369 =		1,429,679
Bills on Bengal: exch. 204 and 30 days		1,314,887
,, 207 ,, 30 ,,		1,878,708
Bills on London: cotton profits, 4*s.* 4*d.* and 6 months		296,247
salaries of staff, £9,339		43,130
Certificates: commanders and officers		468,454
Cotton bonds of commanders		726,067
		8,766,751
Deduct: debit balance as above, Tls. 108,203 =	150,282	
bullion shipped to Europe	1,356,059	
		1,506,341
Tls. 5,227,495 =		7,260,410

Included in the bills on Bengal were transfers in favour of Chinese merchants to the amount of 980,988 dollars.

The Company's investments were invoiced as follows:

	Tls.
Tea for London	5,380,261
,, Quebec	437,513
,, Halifax	178,913
,, Cape of Good Hope	22,375
,, (and nankeens) for St. Helena	2,345
,, Bengal	3,693
	6,025,100 = 8,368,197 dollars.

The particulars of trade during the season were as follows:

	Ships.		*Cotton.*	*Tea.*	*Raw Silk.*	*Silk Piece Goods.*	*Nankeens.*
	No.	Tons.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Pieces.
English:							
Company	23	30,066	102,546	248,000 [2]	..	..	..
Private	67	29,373	324,942	21,863 [3]	6,651 [4]	54,683	121,500
American	62	25,000 [1]	..	122,457	144	215,219	39,000
Dutch	13	7,500 [1]	..	12,000	..	4,000	10,000
Danish	2	800 [1]	..	..	..	..	..
French	3	1,200 [1]	..	..	..	..	..
Hamburg	1	400 [1]	..	..	..	..	..
Mexican	1	400 [1]	..	..	..	..	..
New Zealand	1	400 [1]	..	..	..	..	..
	173	95,139	427,488	404,320	6,795	273,902	170,500

In addition to the above shipping there were 2 English, 1 American, and 1 Danish described as 'Opium vessels stationed at Lintin'. The English ship *Red Rover* (255 tons) is included four times, having made so many trips from Calcutta with unprecedented speed; so too the *Water Witch* (369 tons) twice, *Sylph* (304 tons) twice, the *Lady of the Lake* (243 tons) twice. For one trip the *Water Witch* took only twenty-one days from Calcutta; and the barque *Sylph* arrived on September 1st after 'an extraordinary passage of 18 days from Bengal'. Two English, two Danish, and one Dutch, returning from the 'East Coast of China', are not included. One of the thirteen Dutch ships is noted as 'Wrecked on the Rocks under the Guia Fort in a Gale of Wind on 29 Aug.'

[1] Estimated. [2] Tea to London 225,273 piculs.

[3] Tea to London 14,984 piculs.

[4] Raw silk, Nanking, 4,436 piculs at 351 dollars; Canton, 2,013 piculs at 255 dollars; Canton, 202 piculs at 58 dollars.

In addition to the above shipping at Whampoa and Lintin, there entered at Macao 13 Portuguese and 47 Spanish vessels; of these 1 Portuguese ship arrived from and cleared for Lisbon, the remaining 59 trading from Macao to the islands and to Indian ports. A part of this traffic was an attempt to get around the Company's monopoly of the Far Eastern trade with England: on May 14th it is noted that

the *Dhaule* [British] country Trader is proceeding immediately to Manila, with a portion of Cargo for a ship which is to sail from thence direct to England.

On May 20th it is recorded that

the American Frigate *Potomac*, Commodore Downes, of 56 guns, arrived in the [Macao] Roads yesterday, and is about to proceed to Lintin for water. This vessel is last from Coast of Sumatra, whither she proceeded for the purpose of obtaining satisfaction on account of an American Merchantman which had been cut off by the Malays. The natives, it seems, had looked for something of the kind, and made preparations by throwing up forts. These were quickly destroyed by the *Potomac*, from whence 300 men being landed, the Rajah and about 160 Malays were killed, with the loss of only two or three on the part of the Americans.

On June 5th the *Potomac* sailed away to the Sandwich Islands and the West Coast of America. On November 5th the U.S.S. *Peacock* arrived from Manila, having on board Mr. Edmund Roberts, the first American Commissioner to the Kingdom of Cochin-China and Siam. She remained in Canton waters until December 27th, when she left for Cochin-China.

The census of non-Portuguese European residents on March 6, 1832 (the staff of the English Company on September 1st), is given in the Committee's records as follows in the first column, the figures given by Mr. Roberts being shown in the second column:

	Committee.	*Mr. Roberts.*
English, Company	29	88
,, Private	36	
American merchants, &c.	19	20
Netherlands (Consul and merchants)	3	3
Spanish merchants	3	4
French Consul	1	1
Swedish	1	3
Swiss	1	..
Danish	..	4
	93	123

The firm of Magniac & Co. was wound up on June 30th, and was replaced by Jardine, Matheson & Co., from July 1st.

In May rumours reached the ears of the Committee prejudicial to the credit of Mowqua; but the only loss which would be incurred by the Company from his bankruptcy would be that arising from the possibility of an illegal seizure of the winter teas bought from him and left in his storage, and from a failure to fulfil his contract for the investment of the coming season. Mr. Daniell went at once to Canton and found that the reports were much exaggerated; and when in July an attempt was made to seize the winter teas, the move was checkmated by an appeal to the Hoppo.

In June it was learned that a new Hong had been licensed under the designation of Tung-shun.

> The merchant's own name is Samqua, and he is brother to a man who has long been connected with the house of Magniac & Co. as compradore. The foreign business is to be conducted by another brother named Apong.

Samqua, an ex-Hong Merchant, was the foreigners' name for Wu Kien-chang, who, as Taotai at Shanghai in 1854, was instrumental in establishing the basis of the Inspectorate-General of Customs.[1] There was at the same time, in June, another Hong licensed under the name of Fuk-tsune (Fu-chüen), bringing the total number up to twelve.

> From the Hong of Fok Tsune we do not expect much advantage to the Trade. The Merchant by name Wang Ta Tong whose property appeared to render the selection desirable, has been, we are given to understand, deprived of all his property by the Hoppo, under the excuse of Fees and official expenses, and that he is at this moment [November 15th] imprisoned for debt, before he has transacted any foreign business whatever.

At a later date, December 12th, it was noted—

> We have received information that the Hong Merchant Shun Tae has been imprisoned for some days by order of the Hoppo, under a plea of having been concerned in smuggling furs for some of the ships at Lintin; as there appears to be no foundation for the charge, we conceive it to be one of the many pretexts resorted to by the local authorities to extort money.

Even Howqua, who in 1834 declared that his estate was valued at

[1] Cf. *International Relations*, vol. ii, pp. 13, 23.

26,000,000 dollars,[1] now in 1832 was trying to withdraw from active business, and it was only at the close of the season that the Committee could record that he was continuing. As it was, he secured no ships during the season.

In 1829 new Hongs had been licensed experimentally with only two sureties; but in September, 1832, the Hoppo called upon all who had been so appointed, four in number, to furnish within five days additional and substantial sureties. The Committee regarded this demand as, virtually, calculated to cause a reduction by four in the number of Hong Merchants, and they wrote at once to the Viceroy and the Governor protesting against it. This protest was favourably received and the four Hongs were left undisturbed.

Another method of extortion practised by the Hoppo's office was to refuse or delay the issue of the Grand Chop or port clearance of a ship, when neither the ship nor her consignee had been guilty of any offence. On January 12, 1833,

> the Port Clearance of the H.C. Ship *Berwickshire* which had been some time since applied for having been very vexatiously withheld by the Hoppo who has detained the Security Merchant Fatqua in the City for the last two days on the pretext of defalcation of duties quite unconnected with the Company's affairs, we have deemed it advisable as the ship will be dispatched this evening to address the Hoppo on the subject. It becomes absolutely necessary to resist by every available means the system which is now adopted by the Hoppo of making the Company's trade answerable for the duties due by Hong Merchants in affairs extrinsic from it, and for every exaction which his rapacity may dictate. At this moment two of the Hong Merchants Puankhequa and Fatqua are detained in the City on these pretexts and the *Berwickshires* Port Clearance is withheld until these unjust demands of the Hoppo are satisfied.

The Committee wrote then to the Hoppo, threatening to dispatch the ship without the Port Clearance, and at once, on the same day, the document was issued. On February 5th the clearance of the *Reliance* was refused on an even more frivolous pretext—

> Having been informed that the Hoppo has refused to issue the Grand Chop of the *Reliance* on the frivolous pretext that some pictures were

[1] Cf. Hunter, *The Fan Kwae at Canton*, p. 48.

sent down in the Chow Chow Chop[1] of that ship among which was a representation of the Emperor, we sent for Goqua the Security Merchant, who informed us that not only the Hoppo had refused to issue the ship's clearance, but that his brother had been detained a prisoner at the Hoppo's office for the last two days, and a fee of no less than 20,000 Dollars was demanded by that Officer. This Plea is equally frivolous and unjust. Pictures like those in question are publicly sold at every Painters shop in Canton, nor has any concealment ever been affected (*sic*) or the slightest objection made to their sale. We see no alternative but an appeal to the Viceroy. . . . The Grand Chop of the *Reliance* was delivered the moment the Hoppo heard we were about to address the Viceroy but Goqua still continues a prisoner in his Office.

Goqua's brother was detained until the 9th, no other ground being given for the detention than that, as Security Merchant of the *Reliance*, he was liable to the heavy penalty of 20,000 dollars for certain pith-paper pictures of mandarins discovered in the ship's Chow-chow Chop, and no explanation was given of his release. The Viceroy's answer was declared to have been civil, conciliatory, and satisfactory.

At the end of April Messrs. Dent & Co. wrote asking if the Committee would consent to receive sycee at Lintin during the summer months, paying therefor a premium gradually reduced from 6·8 per cent in May to 6 per cent. in August. In consultation the Committee expressed their surprise that they should be asked to receive sycee six months before they could ship it off, and thereby lose as much as six months' interest and insurance. Six months later, in their letter to the Court of Directors of November 15th, they reported that they hoped to obtain the 4,876,296 dollars which they still needed for their commercial requirements, but that, of the two million dollars to be remitted in bullion to England, they would have to take a large proportion in sycee, 'which appears to be procurable at Lintin to a much more limited extent than we had expected'. At the same time they warned the Court that the Americans were bringing large sums in bills payable in London, which they were offering at 4*s.* 5*d.* per dollar; and as these were bought for remittance through India, the Committee would find it necessary to raise their rate of exchange to 207 sicca rupees per 100 dollars. By the end of the season the shipments of silver, on Company and on private

[1] License for (or licensed lighter carrying) the miscellaneous lading of the ship taken on board just prior to sailing.

account, by British ships were as follows, the value of sycee being given in dollars :

	Dollars.	Sycee.	Total.
To London . . .	331,137	1,791,799	2,122,936
To Indian ports . .	821,923	1,880,896	2,702,819
	1,153,060	3,672,695	4,825,755

The method of conducting the American trade was revolutionized in this season, during which American ships imported

	Dollars.
in goods to a normal value of	2,907,936
in silver to the extremely low value of	682,519
in bills payable in London, £1,043,988 at ex. 4*s.* 4½*d.* . .	4,772,516
Total	8,362,971

Included in the American imports were cotton and woollen goods valued at 1,084,906 dollars, all of English manufacture, shipped from England to Canton in contravention of the East India Company's monopoly—at least the English manufacturers sold the goods to the Americans, who then transported them to Canton, as they were entitled to do, while the English were not. The Americans also imported 380 chests of Turkey opium, which it was not permissible for English merchants or shipowners to do. American ships loading (eight) in whole, or (six) in part at Manila, drew for that purpose funds from Canton to the amount of 264,816 dollars.

The records in March, 1832, included the translation of an imperial decree against the opium trade and the consequent drain of silver, similar to that previously recorded.[1] On April 13th the Hoppo sent out a mandate conveying to the Hong Merchants the orders of the Emperor—

> Hereafter when foreigners come to Canton to trade, let the Governor [Viceroy] and his colleagues assiduously and earnestly issue distinct orders to all the foreigners, and also strictly command the Hong Merchants to explain to and direct the foreigners, not to bring opium together with their goods in their ships. If any ship shall then be found so doing, that ship must not be allowed to discharge and sell her goods, but must immediately be driven away. Moreover let it be strictly commanded also, that besides the Merchant ships no other ships be allowed to be stationed at the place that the source of the contraband introduction may be dammed up. . . . The Governor and his colleagues

[1] Cf. Appendix AA.

must constantly examine and interdict and offenders must be punished. Let not length of days beget remissness. Respect this.

In so far as the giving of commands went, the authorities at Canton performed their full duty, and it was only in the execution of the commands that there was any laxity. In this same month of April the Hoppo issued a mandate against the ships lying at Lintin, regarding which the Committee note as follows:

We record the following Translation of an Edict relating to the Opium vessels at Lintin. It is in substance so similar to those which have now for years been periodically issued on the same subjects, that we must conclude it to be equally unmeaning.

Sometimes the Committee were forced to take notice of such a mandate, as on January 19, 1833—

We have received another application respecting a country ship that arrived some time since but has never entered the Port. We presume the ship in question from the Chinese name Wei-chun to be the *Hercules* Captain Wilson, which we understand has become an Opium receiving ship at Lintin. We should have passed this letter as we have done several others upon the same subject unnoticed but from the entreaty of the Merchants that we should send a reply to enable them to satisfy the urgent demands of the Hoppo regarding this vessel, and as in the present state of the Trade carried on at Lintin, these and similar appeals are likely to be frequently made to us, we consider it advisable to return a reply disclaiming all responsibility in such questions.

They accordingly answered that

the ship in question having never been reported to us or entered the Port we can know nothing about her. It is possible she may be one among the many ships which you are well aware are carrying on an illicit trade at Lintin under the connivance of the Chinese Government, and if so, we beg to state that as the East India Company have no connexion with that traffic, we cannot be answerable for the irregular proceedings that may arise from it.

The opium trade was flourishing in one sense, in that year by year increased quantities were brought to China, the importation now exceeding 20,000 chests a year; but the supply at Lintin was in excess and the prices obtainable were below the laid-down cost. To obtain better prices and to extend their market the importers sent their ships to the north-eastward, but in July, 1832, it is recorded that

the late deliveries at Lintin have, notwithstanding, been unusually

large, and the endeavours of the Government to suppress the system, whether sincere or otherwise, are as ineffective as ever.

Some record is preserved of the voyages to the eastward made by the *Sylph* and the *Jamesina*, both belonging to the firm of Jardine, Matheson & Co., dispatched mainly for the purpose of selling opium; but earlier than their voyages was that of the *Lord Amherst*, which, being dispatched by the East India Company, carried no opium.

One of the last acts of Mr. Marjoribanks before he embarked for England, fully supported by Mr. Davis, who was to succeed to the Presidency, was (on January 12, 1832) to give secret instructions to Mr. Hugh Hamilton Lindsay, a senior supercargo below the Committee, to proceed in the Company's sloop-of-war *Clive* with the object

to ascertain how far the northern Ports of this Empire may gradually be opened to British Commerce which would be most eligible and to what extent the disposition of the Natives and local governments would be favorable to it.

He would be supplied with some quantities of English products for which he was to ascertain the probable demand and the prices obtainable, and also the prices and the facilities or difficulties attending the purchase and lading of teas, silks, and other products of China; and he would be accompanied by the Rev. Charles Gutzlaff, who had visited many parts of China in a junk from Siam, and who understood the Fukien dialect. He was to be careful to avoid any reference to his being on a mission from the East India Company; and he might make presents to the officials of specimens of English manufactures.

We do not wish to embarrass you with more definite instructions on an occasion where so much must be left to your own Enterprise Discretion and Judgement on which we place every reliance. You will on no account attempt to penetrate into the interior of the Country and will scrupulously abstain from any use of arms except such as self Defence requires. You will be most careful to prevent any Opium being received into or vended from the ship.

After the goods to be taken as samples were laden on board the *Clive*, her commander discovered that he was precluded from taking them.

With all due deference I beg to state to you most plainly that the merchandize now on board the *Clive* exceeds by far any quantity that

can possibly be required as presents, and that anything above that received into the Ship is at variance with my Instructions, and the regulations of the Service, and equally illegal in the eye of the Law; I therefore request clear and plain orders, as regards the removal of the fixed stores from the *Clive*, the destination of the ship, and the disposal how and where of the Bales of Goods now on board.

At a personal interview with Mr. Davis, Captain Harris had been informed that

Mr. Lindsay would have charge of the expedition, when Captain Harris so entirely forgot himself as to declare (in a tone of the most marked disrespect) that he would not obey any Instructions, in which he was not himself placed in full possession of our views.

The Committee promptly, on February 1st, ordered Captain Harris to prepare to return to Bombay, after having transhipped his goods to the ship *Lord Amherst*. This ship of 350 tons, then at Lintin, had been chartered for 2,500 dollars a month from the consignees, Messrs. Whiteman & Co., and on her the Committee shipped the following:

	Bales.
Broadcloth	33
Camlets	70
British calicoes	50
Cotton yarn	20
Indian raw cotton	50
	223

Mr. Lindsay sailed in the ship at the beginning of March, and, though instructed to return not later than June 1st, he did not return until September 4th. He went first to Amoy, and then to Foochow, Ningpo, and Shanghai, besides various ports between those limits, and in returning visited parts of Korea and the Loochoo Islands.

The result of this expedition has proved that the Chinese People are far from averse to a more extended intercourse with foreigners, those on board the *Lord Amherst* being everywhere received with the greatest friendship and cordiality; at Fuhchowfoo trade to some extent was carried on by the tacit acquiescence of the Mandarins although the strictest Edicts were issued against such proceedings. On all occasions the Government have manifested a decided opposition, and positively refused compliance with the addresses which were sent in requesting permission to trade. They have also issued numerous Edicts to the Committee both before and since her return urging her immediate recall

with that of the several vessels on the coast and directing that positive orders should be issued to prevent the recurrence of such attempts. The weakness and disorganization of the Government was every where manifest, and although the *Lord Amherst* entered their ports staying a considerable time in each, they were in most instances treated with marked deference and politeness, which however from the Edicts subsequently issued must be attributed more to the apprehensions of the Local Governments than their good will. These Edicts received at Canton invariably assert the ship to have been expelled and driven away from the coast by the Imperial Cruizers, whereas the only means ever used to effect her departure were entreaties or compliance with wishes and in one instance a sum of money was offered.

During that summer it was a matter of common knowledge that several ships under various flags (viz. *Danesborg* and *Kronsberg*, Danish; and *Carlotta*, Dutch) had been engaged in carrying opium to the north-east coast; and subsequent to the return of the *Lord Amherst* the English opium importers dispatched to that coast the *Sylph* (304 tons), which had just arrived from Calcutta with opium, and the *Jamesina* (382 tons), an opium store-ship at Lintin. They both carried some small quantities of woollens and cottons, in order to have an ostensible reason for being in northern waters; but the true purpose of the expeditions was the sale of opium. Of this they disposed of a considerable quantity at remunerative prices, the *Jamesina* bringing back a sum of 330,000 dollars in specie, the proceeds of sales. This was, however, only an extension—the *Sylph* reaching as far as the coast of Manchuria—of a practice which had been followed for some years past. On November 15th, in the interval between the return of the *Lord Amherst* and of these two ships, the Committee wrote—

> We have noticed to your Hon'ble Court that for some years past the Lintin vessels have occasionally been employed on the Coast, for the disposal of Opium, and occasionally of British Manufactures; the prices of which at the different towns on the Coast held forth strong inducement to attempt to force a trade there; hitherto the Mandarins have officially been systematically opposed to it, but it is a question whether by perseverance, on the part of British Traders, and a system of bribery or nominal duties imposed upon articles of Traffic, a trade may not be gradually winked at, and permitted by the local officers. At this moment the two ships, the *Sylph* and *Jamesina*, are engaged on that service.

The *Sylph*, it was noted, forced herself into observation by

hoisting flags and attracting the attention of the authorities, while the *Jamesina* adopted the policy of avoiding observation. After having visited Chinchew Bay and Amoy, the *Jamesina* spent twelve days at Foochow, and her supercargo records in his journal that he did very little trade in English goods, but that he was treated with great consideration by the authorities—

> During all their conferences which must have been very irritating to the authorities, it is fair to say not an allusion to threat was made on their part. . . . My mind is made up that until some important change in the relation of the two Countries takes place, the only chance of pushing English manufactures on this Coast is by having them a small item in an Opium cargo; at the same time it must be stated that the population of the country are most anxious to trade if they could escape Mandarin vengeance.

All these movements of shipping in prohibited waters attracted the attention of the officials of the empire and caused a great fluttering. On August 17th the Hong Merchants communicated a mandate from the Hoppo, acting on the motion of the Fuyuen, who wrote on the strength of a dispatch from the Nanking Viceroy and the Fuyuen of Kiangsu, reporting that a ship belonging to two foreigners, Hoo-hea-me and Kea-le, had visited their coast to trade and had been driven out of the jurisdiction; and the Chief was required to ascertain why the two foreigners went to Kiangsu, and to order the ship to return to her own country. On the 22nd there came a similar mandate sent by the Hoppo on the motion of the Viceroy. To these the Committee answered briefly that they had no knowledge of the ship referred to. On August 24th Mr. Plowden resumed the Presidency; and on that day came a mandate dated the 17th, referring to instructions from Peking dated July 28th regarding a ship which appeared on the coast of Shantung on July 15th, but which had been driven off; on August 28th, on September 6th, 10th, 14th, 21st, 25th, further mandates came on the same subject, to one or two of which the Committee returned answer that they knew nothing of the matter. Then for a while there was a lull; but on January 10th there was again a mandate from the Viceroy communicating orders from the Grand Council regarding a ship said to have been sighted on November 23rd from Hwang-ching Island. To this they replied that

> it is impossible for us either to prevent or be answerable for vessels

which illegally visit the Northern Ports of the Empire. In accordance however with the commands of His Imperial Majesty, we shall make known to the British Government in Europe and in India that, with the exception of Canton, Foreign Vessels are interdicted from trading with other Ports of the Chinese Empire.

With the control of the Company removed, as seemed probable, and with the private English traders pushing in wherever they saw a prospect of profit, as was inevitable, the creaking machinery of the Chinese administration was destined to be subjected to a severe strain.

The Committee learned on October 6th that the Viceroy Le Hung-pin, then at Limchowfu still engaged in his unsuccessful attempts to suppress the rebellion, had been degraded and cashiered; though a civilian, he was declared in the imperial decree degrading him to have

proved himself ignorant of military tactics, lost opportunities, and impeded the public service.

His successor, Lu Tajen, transferred from Hu-Kwang, arrived at Canton on December 16th; and on February 23, 1833, towards the close of the season, the Committee wrote to the Court—

on every occasion that we have had occasion to address him, the Viceroy has evinced the readiest disposition to attend to our representations. Since the short period of his assuming the charge of his Government we have had occasion to address him no less than six different times, and in every instance we have received the most satisfactory proofs of his desire to afford us redress.

The family of the Chinese killed [1] at Lintin in 1831 were pertinacious in claiming redress, and strongly worded mandates were sent to the Hong Merchants requiring them to enjoin on the Chief to deliver up the accused foreign murderers that they might be tried and punished. Such mandates, of great length, were sent on June 7th and November 6, 1832, and on January 9, 1833; to the last the Committee replied that

as Representatives of the East India Company we have no connexion with the illicit traffic openly carried on at Lintin, and that moreover, as it is withoutside the Port, we cannot be responsible for the affrays that are likely to arise from such an irregular Trade.

There were a few assaults on foreigners, as was perhaps natural with their greatly increased numbers and in the heated atmo-

[1] Cf. *antea*, p. 267.

THE CANTON FACTORIES, *c.* 1832

sphere of angry discussion. One cause of assaults was the sale of vile Chinese spirits at Whampoa and Canton. Once, at the end of October, Mr. Plowden complained to the Hong Merchants of the mat sheds erected on the river front, a danger in case of another great fire, and of the spirits sold in some of the shops in Hog Lane, by which sailors were overcome and robbed of their money and often of their clothes. The response was prompt in a proclamation by the two Hiens, under instructions from the Kwangchow Fu, forbidding both practices, on pain of being arrested, tried, and severely punished—but it is not in evidence that any change was effected by this, any more than by other Chinese official injunctions and prohibitions.

On December 13th Mr. Lindsay of the factory, in company with Mr. Jackson, a Bengal civilian visiting China, was walking on the Lappa at Macao, when they were the victims of a murderous assault by Chinese armed with hatchets and bludgeons. Mr. Lindsay had his lip cut through, and was beaten to insensibility, while Mr. Jackson was badly beaten. Mr. Plowden, who was in Macao at the time, preferred an official complaint to the Tsotang, who took prompt action, and arrested two of the assailants.

On January 29th Captain Durant of the country ship *Good Success*, embarking with his wife at Macao, was set upon by the officers of the Praya Grande (Chinese) Custom House and wounded, and his comprador badly beaten, because the Captain had objected to paying six dollars to the officers for permission to embark, when the usual charge was three dollars. The Committee addressed a formal complaint to the Viceroy, who sent the most stringent orders to the officials at Macao that there was to be no extortion and no wrangling by the Customs people.

In neither of these cases was there any reference, on either side, to the Portuguese authorities, but in this season the English were especially punctilious in their attitude. Under date of December 22, 1831, Admiral Owen addressed to the Governor of Macao a letter, delivered on March 15, 1832, in which the hand of iron was manifested, but was entirely covered by the velvet glove of courteous consideration; and the effect was such that, on its presentation, the Governor took the utmost pains to assure Captain Fremantle that, under his explicit instructions, he could

not have acted otherwise than he did. Further, on the arrival of Mr. Plowden on August 24, 1832, he at once communicated to the Governor the names of himself and his two colleagues contained in 'three documents sent by the Portuguese Government through the Court of Directors in London'; to which the Governor replied in a polite and non-committal note.

The Committee's last report was sent on February 23, 1833, by the *David Scott*, the departure of which ship

> will conclude the transactions of the present season, which we are happy to say has been conducted with uninterrupted tranquillity, and a better and more friendly understanding with the Government than has been the case for some years past.

IMPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1832. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	British. Company.	British. Private.	British. Total.	American.	Other Flags.[4]	Total.
Woollens	2,240,930	254,478	2,495,408	483,538	48,640	3,027,586
Cotton Goods	214,020	254,933	468,953	591,468	935	1,061,356
Metals	154,629	38,288	192,917	1,004,168[1]	..	1,197,085
Furs	..	5,000	5,000	133,085	..	138,085
Other Western Products	..	76,910	76,910	191,774[2]	844	269,528
Western Products	2,609,579	629,609	3,239,188	2,404,033	50,419	5,693,640
Cotton	1,426,693	4,048,132	5,474,825	..	..	5,474,825
Opium	..	12,185,100	12,185,100	228,000	1,696,500	14,109,600
Sandalwood	2,986	22,825	25,811	28,000	600	54,411
Tin, Banka	..	86,869	86,869	..	40,975	127,844
Pepper	..	127,607	127,607	..	5,250	132,857
Other Eastern Produce	..	1,157,853	1,157,853	247,903	302,484	1,708,240
Eastern Produce	1,429,679	17,628,386	19,058,065	503,903	2,045,809	21,607,777
Total Goods	4,039,258	18,257,995	22,297,253	2,907,936	2,096,228	27,301,417
Silver	..	7,500	7,500	682,519[3]	55,300	745,319
Total Imports	4,039,258	18,265,495	22,304,753	3,590,455	2,151,528	28,046,736

[1] Including quicksilver, 10,154 piculs, 629,548 dollars.
[2] Including ginseng, 2,507 piculs, 146,054 dollars.
[3] In addition bills on London were brought to the value of £1,043,988 = 4,772,516 dollars.
[4] All under the Netherlands flag, except opium, 2,700 chests, 1,694,400 dollars, on Portuguese account.

EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1832. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	*British.*			*American.*	*Other Flags.*[3]	*Total.*
	Company.	*Private.*	*Total.*			
Ships: Number	23	67	90	62	21	173
Tonnage	30,066	29,373	59,439	25,000	10,700	95,139
Exports:						
Tea	8,017,810	795,361	8,813,171	5,925,541	503,000	15,241,712
Raw Silk	..	2,082,151	2,082,151	50,400	..	2,132,551
Silk Piece Goods	..	319,785	319,785	1,115,730[2]	22,800	1,458,315
Nankeens	..	85,050	85,050	30,775	13,000	128,825
Sugar	..	221,885	221,885	42,300	..	264,185
Other Commodities	..	1,141,952[1]	1,141,952	795,813	94,845[4]	2,032,610
Total Goods	8,017,810	4,646,184	12,063,994	7,960,559	633,645	21,258,198
Silver	1,356,059	3,534,866	4,890,925	264,816	..	5,155,741
	9,373,869	8,181,050	17,554,919	8,225,375	633,645	26,413,939
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	110,472					
Factory Expenses	148,868	266,500	777,840	146,800	23,000	947,640
Ship Expenses	252,000					
	511,340	266,500	777,840	146,800	23,000	947,640
Cost of Investment	9,885,209	8,447,550	18,332,759	8,372,175	656,645	27,361,579

[1] Including cassia, 14,331 piculs, 105,141 dollars; camphor, 5,299 piculs, 148,372 dollars; South American copper, 10,692 piculs, 213,840 dollars.

[2] Including sewing silk, 72 piculs, 30,240 dollars.

[3] Netherlands flag only.

[4] Including opium, 60 piculs, 30,000 dollars.

DISTRIBUTION OF EXPORT TRADE UNDER THE AMERICAN FLAG AT CANTON, SEASON 1832

			Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
To the UNITED STATES :					
Tea, black	Piculs	34,472	934,118		
,, green	,,	68,562	4,109,512		
		103,034	5,043,630	5,043,630	
Raw Silk	,,	144	..	50,400	
Sewing Silk	,,	72	..	30,240	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	211,249	..	1,076,620	
Nankeens	,,	39,000	..	30,775	
Sugar	Piculs	4,000	..	36,000	
Cassia	,,	7,428	..	89,136	
Matting	Rolls	10,368	..	41,472	
Fire-crackers	Boxes	14,444	..	32,449	
Sundries	Value	..	..	260,690	
					6,691,412
To EUROPE :					
Tea, black	Piculs	11,835	398,838		
,, green	,,	7,588	483,073		
		19,423	881,911	881,911	
Silk Piece Goods	Pieces	3,970	..	8,870	
Sugar	Piculs	700	..	6,300	
Cassia	,,	918	..	11,016	
Sundries	Value	..	..	14,877	
					922,974
To SOUTH AMERICA, MANILA, and SANDWICH ISLANDS					346,173
Funds supplied from Canton for vessels loading at Manila					264,816
Total					8,225,375

OPIUM STATEMENT, SEASON 1832

	Bengal. Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	*Total.* Chests.
Stock on April 1, 1832	2,595	2,983	..	5,578
Imported in season :				
British account	7,185	11,394	..	18,579
Portuguese ,,	700	2,000	..	2,700
American ,,	..	..	380	380
Dutch ,,	..	3	..	3
	10,480	16,380	380	27,240
Deliveries :				
At Lintin	6,931	14,485	380	21,796
At Macao	124	270	..	394
At North-east Coast	1,212	649	..	1,861
Re-exported	23	3	..	26
	8,290	15,407	380	24,077
Stock on March 31, 1833	2,190	973	..	3,163
Value in dollars of deliveries for consumption	6,551,059	8,781,700	228,000	15,560,759
Market price in dollars per chest :				
Highest	940	720	600	
Lowest	625	490		

XCII

THE SELECT COMMITTEE AND THE FREE MERCHANTS, 1833

In the season 1833 the Select Committee was composed of Mr. William Henry Chichely Plowden (President) and Messrs. John Francis Davis and James Nugent Daniell. On Mr. Plowden's departure for England, the Committee was composed from January 8, 1834, of Mr. Davis (President) and Messrs. Daniell and John Jackson. The books were opened on February 19, 1833, with the following balances :

		Tls.	Tls.
Cr. by Silver in treasury, 22,736 dollars			16,370
Factory account			22,886
Winter teas in stock, 8,875 piculs			178,594
Dead stock and buildings			19,645
H.C. Sloop			10,674
			248,169
Dr. to Chinese merchants :	Howqua	265,536	
	Puankhequa	259,665	
	Goqua	95,258	
	Fatqua	13,556	
	Hengtae	62,018	
	Shuntae	302,150	
			998,183
	Debit balance		750,014

During the season the Company loaded with tea for London 22 ships of 26,417 tons, and for Halifax and Quebec 3 ships of about 1,750 tons, making a total of 25 ships and 28,167 tons. The treasury was supplied with funds, up to April 15, 1834, as follows :

		Dollars.	Dollars.
Proceeds of imports :			
English products, Tls. 2,515,246			3,493,397
Indian produce, Tls. 1,842,407			2,558,899
Bills on Bengal : exch. 207 and 30 days			4,484,443
,, London : salaries of staff, £11,734			55,000
Cotton bonds of commanders of H.C. ships			960,955
			11,552,694
Deduct : Debit balance of assets, Tls. 750,014		1,041,686	
Bullion shipped to London		155,050	
			1,196,736
	Tls. 7,456,280 =		10,355,958

The Company's investments were invoiced as follows:

	Tls.
Tea to London	5,122,014
,, British North America	366,356
,, Cape and St. Helena	20,345
,, Indian ports	12,328
	5,521,043 = 7,668,115 dollars.

Included in the bills on Bengal were transfers in favour of Hong Merchants to the amount of 1,699,939 dollars.

The amount of cash remaining in the treasury on April 15, 1834, was 281,133 dollars; and the amount transferred on July 1st to the agency was 278,071 dollars.

The customary particulars of the trade of the port, so far as they can be ascertained, were as follows:

	Ships.		*Cotton.*	*Tea.*	*Raw Silk.*	*Silk Piece Goods.*	*Nankeens.*
	No.	Tons.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Pieces.
British:							
Company	25	28,167	116,247	229,270 [2]	..	..	..
Private	82	36,326 [1]	326,393	29,031 [3]	9,920 [4]	66,550	30,600
American	59	24,000	..	..	..	..	..
Dutch	8	3,200	..	..	..	..	..
French	7	2,800	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	4	1,600	..	..	..	..	..
Belgic	1	400	..	..	..	..	..
Prussian	1	400	..	..	..	..	..
Hamburg	1	400	..	..	..	..	..
Mexican	1	400	..	..	..	..	..
	189	97,693	442,640	258,301	9,920	66,550	30,600

Including for British ships entrances to March 31, 1834; for all other flags entrances to January 31st, tonnage estimated only.

Included in the private British shipping are two entrances each

[1] Tonnage of private British averaged from the tonnage given for 64 ships. Of the 82 ships there were:
22 at Whampoa laden inwards with general cargo;
16 ,, ,, ,, rice;
44 at Lintin and did not enter the river.

[2] Tea to London, 212,603 piculs; to British North America, 15,260 piculs; elsewhere, 1,407 piculs.

[3] Tea to London, 14,083 piculs; to India, 14,948 piculs.

[4] Nanking silk, 8,081 piculs; Canton, 1,418 piculs; Canton, 5th quality, 441 piculs.

of the following opium clippers, running between Calcutta and Lintin :

Jamesina	(382 tons)	*Water Witch*	(369 tons)
Falcon	(170 „)	*Sylph*	(304 „)
Red Rover	(255 „)		

The *Fairy* (161 tons) arrived at Lintin from Liverpool and Singapore on November 27th, left for the north-east coast of China on December 15th, and returned to Lintin on January 6, 1834 ; it would be interesting to know what her lading was. The *Sarah* (488 tons), Whiteside commander, the first ' free ship ' from Canton to London, was dispatched by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. on March 22, 1834, with the following lading : [1]

Silk (Nanking)	2,965 piculs
Silk piece goods	11,250 pieces
Nankeens	8,000 „
Cassia bark	883 piculs
Rhubarb	419 „
China-root	7,475 „
Sundries	2,600 dollars

The total value exceeded one million dollars for the silk and the silk piece goods alone.

The shipments of bullion by British ships to March 31, 1834, were as follows, the values of sycee in taels being converted into dollars :

	Dollars.	*Sycee.* Dollars.	*Total.* Dollars.
To England	128,739	26,941	155,730
To Indian ports	919,632	5,142,458	6,062,090
Gold to Indian ports	..	..	513,795
	1,048,371	5,169,399	6,731,615

It is recorded that the opium clippers *Jamesina* and *Sylph* brought back from the north-east coast the following amounts from sales of opium :

	Dollars.
In dollar silver	431,010
In sycee, Tls. 93,318	129,608
In gold to value of	23,082
	583,700

For many years past the commission payable to the factory had

[1] Hunter (*The Fan Kwae at Canton*, p. 33) refers to her as ' the first free ship with free teas '.

been an aggregate of 2 per cent. on the price realized at the sales in London of the investment bought in Canton; but from the aggregate were first deducted the fixed sums paid as salaries to writers, tea inspectors, surgeons, chaplain, translator, &c. During the season 1832 we find the Committee protesting against an order of the Court of Directors that the commission was to be based on the net prices realized, after certain deductions for freight, &c., which 'would reduce the commission by about £20,000 or nearly 30 per cent. of the total', which would imply an aggregate of about £70,000. The actual figures, as given in the records for 1833, are as follows:

	£
Average payments in England from 1801 to 1830 . . .	68,991
,, 1831 to 1834, the last year by Court's estimate . .	51,233
Estimated payment for 1834	44,985
Decrease compared with the average 1801 to 1830 . .	(*sic*) 25,006

The Letter Books of the Court have been preserved only to 1753, and since that year we have had no indication of the proportions paid to each supercargo, until the last month of the Company's commercial monopoly, March, 1834, when we have the distribution of the

Supracargoes' Commission on Teas consigned to Halifax and Quebec.

		s.	*d.*		Dollars.
Select Committee	Mr. Plowden . .	6	0	℔ £100	1,496
	Mr. Davis . . .	5	0	,,	1,247
	Mr. Daniell . . .	5	0	,,	1,247
	Mr. Millett . . .	3	11	,,	977
	Mr. Bannerman . .		5·226	,,	109
	Mr. Smith . . .	4	3·549	,,	1,071
	Mr. Jackson . .	3	9·505	,,	946
	Sir Geo. Robinson, Bt. .	3	3·778	,,	827
	Mr. Hudleston . .	2	9·721	,,	701
	Mr. Lindsay . .	1	8·964	,,	436
	Mr. Astell . . .	1	4·155	,,	336
	Mr. Clarke . . .	1	1·585	,,	282
	Mr. Thornhill . .		11·982	,,	249
	Mr. Ravenshaw . .		2·535	,,	53
		40	0		9,977

This presupposes a principal sum of 498,819 dollars = Tls. 359,150, while the invoice cost, as shown in the statement of trade, was Tls. 366,356, or, deducting the commission, Tls. 359,173.

In addition to the above fourteen supercargoes (of whom

Messrs. Bannerman and Ravenshaw were absent) there were on September 10th the following four writers in the factory:

Mr. Frederick John Morris, salary £600
Mr. James W. H. Campbell, ,, £500
Mr. Henry R. Alexander, ,, £500
Mr. Charles Frederick Young, ,, £400

with the following 6 of the technical staff:

Translator, Rev. Dr. Robert Morrison, £1,000
Tea Inspector, John Russel Reeves, £2,000
Asst. do., Temple H. Layton, £500
Surgeon, Thomas R. Colledge, £1,200
Asst. do., Richard H. Cox, £500
Acting Chaplain, Rev. Charles Wimberley, £800.

and the Steward and Butler—2—making a total of 26 English, besides 5 Native Clerks (Anglo-Indians), making a total in the factory of 31
Private English (census of March 2, 1833) . . . 35

Total of English 66
Parsee merchants (12), clerks and servants (40) . . 52

Total of British 118
Americans (including 1 missionary, 1 surgeon, 1 editor) . 15
Dutch 3
Swedish 3
French (Consul) and Swiss (1 watchmaker) . . . 2
Spanish 4

Total adult male foreigners other than Portuguese . 145

An American, William W. Wood, was editor of the *Chinese Courier*, to which, when it was first started in July, 1831, Mr. Marjoribanks subscribed for 24 copies, to be sent, as the numbers appeared, to the Company's administrators in Bengal (6), Bombay (3), Madras (2), St. Helena (1), and Canton (12); but the tendency of the editorials appearing to Mr. Marjoribanks to be animated by a feeling of hostility, and even rancour, against the Company, he cancelled his order. Mr. Wood appealed, February 28, 1832, to Mr. Ravenshaw, Chairman of the Court of Directors; and, not having received an answer, he wrote to the Committee on December 14, 1833. He was informed, in reply, that there was no reply.

Another publication, the *Evangelist or Miscellanea Sinica*, was

started in May, 1833, by Mr. J. R. Morrison, son of Dr. Robert Morrison; in the same way that the father was translator to the Company, the son was 'Chinese Translator in the pay of the British free Merchants in China': and from its title the periodical was presumed to be devoted to missionary work. The editorial tone of the *Evangelist* attracted the early attention of the Roman Catholic Bishop in Macao, and on his motion the Governor, Senhor João Cabral de Estifique, wrote on June 20th to the Committee:

I am informed by the Most Reverend Vigario Capitular of this Diocese that Mr. R. Morrison has in his house of this City, a Press which he uses for the Publication of certain Works contrary to the Doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church. But as the use of the Press is prohibited in the Portuguese Territories, within which it cannot be made use of without the Royal sanction of his Most Faithful Majesty and under the restrictions of a previous censorship; I have therefore to request that as Chief of the British Factory in China, to which the said Mr. Morrison belongs, you will direct him to abstain from all further use of the above mentioned Press in this City.

The Committee had no wish to oppose the censorship of the Bishop or of the Governor, and instructed their Secretary to inform Dr. Morrison of their views.

Tea contracts for the season 1833 were made at the close of the season 1832 as follows:

	Congo. Chests.	*Canton Bohea.* Chests.	*Fukien Bohea.* Chests.	*Twankay.* Chests.
Howqua	24,000	3,000	8,000	12,000
Mowqua	18,000	..	4,000	5,000
Puankhequa	18,000	..	7,000	8,000
Goqua	18,000	5,000	7,000	8,000
Kinqua	12,000	..	3,000	3,000
Chungwo	12,000	3,000	7,000	8,000
Shuntae	12,000	8,000	7,000	9,000
Hengtae	10,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Fatqua	9,000	..	1,000	2,000
Tongshun	5,000	2,000	5,000	3,000
Yunwo	5,000	..	..	..
	143,000	25,000	53,000	62,000

On September 17th Woo Pingkien (Howqua, senior) informed the Committee of the death of Woo Showchang, his fourth son, who under the designation of Howqua, junior, had for some time past represented the Hong; his fifth son was still absent at

Peking, his sixth son was only ten years old, and he asked to be excused from securing any more of the Company's ships during this season. This request was granted. Howqua was born in 1769, in the same year as Napoleon and Wellington, and he died in 1843; he stated in 1834 that he estimated his capital at twenty-six million dollars, or upwards of six million pounds sterling.[1] This fortune was the balance which he retained after having satisfied the whole official world of Canton—not to mention the innumerable small payments to small people, his benevolences ran into millions: a million dollars towards the ransom of Canton in 1841, numerous contributions for the repair of breaches of the Yellow River, and many similar exactions.

On July 22nd the Hoppo ordered that the four junior Hongs, Hengtae, Chungwo, Shuntae, and Yunwo, after having worked for three years, should at once find security from the older merchants; and on September 27th he ordered that these four, not having found guarantors, were not to be allowed to secure any of the Company's ships, or of the country ships or of the Americans. The factory moved to Canton, and, arriving on October 9th, the Committee found that four of their ships which should have fallen in rotation to these four Hongs were still unsecured and unable to begin discharging their imports—

> It is generally understood that the Hoppo insists on these Hongs providing Bonds or in other words paying each of them 10,000 Dollars before he will allow them to secure the Company's ships.

The Committee resolved to appeal to the Viceroy, and summoned the Hong Merchants in order to deliver their memorial.

> We are however given to understand that the affair is likely to be settled by a mutual compromise, by the payment of a sum of money which will satisfy the rapacity of this officer. The Interdict has been in force for sixteen days which has interrupted the regular progress of our commercial affairs, as well as the private interests of the Commanders.

They then persisted in presenting their memorial, to which the Viceroy replied in benignant terms; but the Hoppo had removed his interdict the moment he heard of the Committee's proposed appeal to the Viceroy.

Sedan chairs were of course not now used at Canton—no chair-bearers could be found to carry them; but at Macao they

[1] Hunter, *The Fan Kwae at Canton*, pp. 48, 53.

were in general use. On August 17th the Tsotang issued a proclamation—

> The employment of native Chinese as Menial Servants to foreign barbarians has long been interdicted by orders received from higher authorities. Heretofore in Macao when barbarians mounted barbarian chairs they have been carried by barbarian slaves; but it is still seen that in Macao there are natives who act as chairbearers and violate the law—they still dare to oppose the regulations, and listening to barbarians intentionally carry barbarian chairs, shewing thereby extreme audacity and impudent trifling.

He forbade the continuance of this audacious breach of the orders given, and thereby occasioned some inconvenience to the foreigners still remaining at Macao. The Committee thought it wiser not to take up so trivial a matter; they asked the intervention of Shuntae, who was supposed to possess local influence, but the Tsotang pleaded that the orders to him were too precise to be disregarded.

The relations generally with the Chinese officials, in this the last year of the Company's monopoly, were not unsatisfactory, and in the Viceroy Loo they recognized a degree of benignity and wisdom to which they had not latterly been accustomed. On October 31st, during the crisis of the Kumsingmoon homicide affair, the Committee requested Howqua to see the Viceroy about

> a case of medals which Sir Edward Thomason was desirous should be presented to the Emperor of China as a specimen of that branch of the Arts of Great Britain.

Some days later Howqua took the case to the Viceroy, and as it was not returned, it is to be assumed that it was sent on to the Emperor. Even more marked was the consideration shown to H.M.S. *Magicienne*, which arrived on November 5th; a few days later the Hong Merchants stated that

> it is not the intention of the Chinese Government to molest H.M.S. *Magicienne* by issuing even the customary Chop or desiring her away or prohibiting a compradore from supplying her with Provisions; moreover . . . has been deputed to proceed to the Bogue with Instructions from the Viceroy to the Admiral and the Commander of the Forts adjacent to Chunpee, not to interfere with her in any way. We attribute this treatment very much to the judicious conversation which the President held with Howqua and Mowqua when it was first rumored that the *Magicienne* was about to visit China, when the impropriety and impolicy

of issuing the customary unfriendly Proclamations which only tended to exasperate H.M. Officers, was pointed out to them and which appears to have been very civilly attended to by the Viceroy.

Even when we come to deal with the Kumsingmoon homicide, we shall find that the authorities, while firm in maintaining their point, were not truculent as in many previous seasons. And yet the Committee did not this season have a bed of roses; but their troubles came from the English 'free' merchants and from the ships at Lintin. Receiving on July 4th an order, in the usual terms, to send away to her own country a ship discharging her cargo in the Typa, the Committee remark—

Such communications as this become daily more absurd now that the greater half of the foreign trade of Canton (exclusive of the Company's) is conducted at Lintin by smuggling transactions openly connived at by Government.

While the ships at Lintin received a fair amount of shelter during the north-east monsoon—the winter half of the year in which the ships from and to England and America arrived and were dispatched—the trade with India was carried on through the whole year, and the opium trade required an anchorage 'without the river', at which shipping could find shelter in the summer months, during the south-west monsoon, which was also the season of typhoons. The opium supply and store ships found such a shelter at Kumsingmoon on the Macao (the western) side of the estuary. Towards the end of August the *Samarang*, an opium store-ship of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.,

was hauled up on the foreshore for the purpose of being caulked below, and not to be broken up—but during the late gale she was driven so high up that I apprehend it may now be necessary to break her up.

A mob of villagers saw here a chance of unlawful gain, and in resisting their attack the people on the other opium ships arrested one of them and held him prisoner; whereupon the Künming Fu wrote to the Chief of the English nation demanding his release. On this the Committee comment—

They seem to have confined themselves strictly to the defence of their property when attacked for purpose of Plunder, yet on ordinary principles it is impossible to justify the act of hauling a ship on shore and erecting sheds without permission from the inhabitants. Everything however connected with the Opium Trade is perfectly anomalous and as the Chinese Government are contented quietly to connive at its

continuance our policy is evidently to disconnect ourselves as much as possible with the subject.

The trade at Lintin, whether in opium or in other commodities, escaped the levy of imperial Customs duty, but it did not escape payment. The ships avoided the heavy charge for measurement; but on the goods, both import and export, dues were paid which were none the more moderate for their being unofficial. In general these irregular dues were regularly paid; one 'free' merchant testified in 1830 that 'in exports I smuggled very largely of silver because it was a prohibited article, and so was tutenague (spelter); and the rule which guided me was that I would smuggle the articles which were prohibited, but not those upon which a direct duty was laid'.[1] When any one of the smaller men yielded to the temptation to avoid the payment of these dues and was detected, it was easy to escape the consequences by prompt payment. Occasionally a seizure was reported of goods smuggled by Parsees, who probably wriggled too long before settling the terms of redemption; but the only seizure reported of goods smuggled by an Englishman was in this season. On July 1st, on the boat of Richard Markwick, who had been steward to the English factory but now for some years past a tavern-keeper and store-keeper, fourteen cases of silk piece goods and four cases of miscellaneous goods were seized while in course of transmission from the Luenking shop in New China Street to the ships at Lintin. The value was well over 5,000 dollars, and, as they presumably belonged to the Chinese shop, they were confiscated without further argument; Markwick's boat was ordered to be broken up.

During the whole season the Committee had to meet the opposition of the 'free' English resident in China, and their resistance to the exercise of any control over them. In this year 1833 not one of the private English had any right to remain over from season to season; not one had any right even to come to China except under a special permission, for which not one had the least idea of applying; not one but was under the control of the Committee; and not a ship was there for which a penal bond had not been signed that all orders of the Committee would be obeyed. But for several years past the

[1] Evidence of W. S. Davidson (Q 2551), Comm. H. of Commons, 1830.

Committee had not even given the usual annual reminder that all British subjects must forthwith leave China, and the orders that they had given had been obviously only those which were in the general interest. Formerly the Committee had represented the Court of Directors, who had behind them the interest and the power of the British administration; but now in England had arisen a greater than these in the industrialists; and, while the Committee represented the monopolists, the masters of the monopolists were represented at Canton by the free merchants, who in this last year of monopoly saw the dawn breaking ahead of them, and were impatient of the few months that they had yet to wait for freedom. But licence they had already found in the opium trade, with its exemption from all restraint; and with this feeling of licence, they resented the restraints which the Committee felt obliged to impose. The Committee, also, was too much inclined to maintain their control until the last moment, and too much disposed to resent the only too manifest inclination of the free merchants to 'flout their authority'.

Mr. James Innes had experienced considerable annoyance from the billeting of great quantities of firewood on a granite pavement close to the foundations of his house, and, before deciding to quit the premises, he complained to Howqua as his landlord and as senior Hong Merchant. After the lapse of many days he was informed through a linguist that the Hoppo's officer had forbidden billeting in that place; but several days later, on April 21, 1833, being then absent, he received a note informing him that 'the Mandarin's coolies were worse than ever'. Mr. Innes then, accompanied by two friends and a comprador, went to the Custom House to point out to the officer the breach of his promise committed by his servants; but finding that the officer was enjoying his siesta, they were returning through a long corridor, when

> out of the middle of a dark kitchen containing a multitude of men, a cooley advanced, and Mr. Innes was struck at three times by a wood knife or chopper, and wounded in the arm.

After pointing the man out to his two friends for recognition, Mr. Innes walked out, and, accompanied by five friends, went

immediately to Howqua's hong, and demanded of him the instant seizure of the cooley for trial by Chinese law.

Howqua trifled, when I [Mr. Innes] made a solemn oath to assure Howqua if that culprit was not in confinement for trial before sun-down (it was then two p.m.) I would set fire to the Hoppo's house. Howqua had seen so many threats made and not acted on, that he went over the water to his country house, and dined. I bought rockets and blue lights and by eight p.m. the mandarin's house was on fire. At half past eight my barricadoed door was knocked at by Howqua, and after a parley he was shewn up stairs. Howqua granted every point he had refused at two in his own hong, thus yielding to violence and from fear what was refused to reason and justice, calmly and deliberately asked. The cooley was publicly punished next day, being exposed all over Canton wearing the wooden collar with his offence described upon it. The Viceroy and Hoppo wrote very proper answers to me ; and, excepting the Merchant's letter to your Committee, I should have considered the matter as finished.

The two friends who accompanied Mr. Innes were Mr. Jardine and Mr. Blenkin. The above statement of facts is from Mr. Innes's own reply to the Committee's request for information, and in that reply he indulges in sarcastic references to the impotence of the Committee—

Assuming my facts therefore I appeal to you whether I could have acted otherwise. Could I have gone to your Hon'ble Committee about my petty differences, when it consisted with my knowledge that two of the members of your own Body lost their situations for attempting to procure commercial redress for a great Indian province ? Or would it have been just to have asked you to interfere when we see by the last published instructions from *Leadenhall Street* that your actings here are specifically tied down to the *purchasing of Tea* ? Nay more, would it not have been the deepest satire to have asked the Hon'ble East India Company to remedy the grievances of others, when they themselves have submitted unredressed to the *grossest public insult and injustice* ever offered in any country ?

There was more than this in the same tone of raillery, and in his reply the secretary took the trouble to explain—

It is far from the purpose of the Select Committee to discuss the different points adduced by you for the purpose of denying their authority in China, it must however be observed that you have entirely misconstrued the advices of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, as well as the nature of the authority vested in the Select Committee by them and by the British Legislature. . . . I am directed distinctly to disavow

the assertion that 'two members of the Select Committee lost their situations for attempting to procure commercial redress for a great Indian Province'. . . . I am further directed to refer you to the 104 § of C. 155 of the 53 y. of George 3rd to place you in possession of the powers vested in the Select Committee by the British Legislature by whom their authority in China is recognized and confirmed.

To this Mr. Innes replied on May 15th that he had never denied the power of the representatives of the Company in China; what he did deny was that the Committee had the slightest power over the Chinese—their ability to obtain redress for any individual here. This doctrine was indignantly repudiated by the Committee, who informed Mr. Innes and the Hong Merchants that in their opinion Mr. Innes's act was not justified, and that, on the broader question, they were and remained the only official channel of communication between British subjects and the Chinese authorities.

On the day, May 18th, on which they record this, the Committee entered on a campaign which was to engage their attention during the whole of the rest of the year 1833. They noted that British ships manned with Englishmen 'occasionally' visit Lintin under licences from one or other of the Presidencies, and that they 'occasionally' quit China without having reported their arrival or submitted their licences to the inspection of the Committee; and it was resolved that to the usual letter of instructions sent to country ships should be added a paragraph to the effect that

you are required to submit your Licence to the Inspection of the Committee and to give them timely notice of your sailing from China and . . . you will incur all the penalties of disobedience to the Company's orders, if these their Instructions are not strictly complied with.

The Committee were already at odds with the master of the opium clipper *Sylph*, who had discharged five sailors—three English, one Bermudan, one American—in Macao, without providing for their return to England as required by law, and who had three weeks earlier been summoned to take them again on his ship. As the barque was on the point of returning to India, the Committee on May 21st informed the Resident at Singapore that 'they have seen fit to withhold the renewal of the License granted to that vessel by the Supreme Government

which expired on the 13th of February, 1833'; and they sent an advertisement to the same effect to be inserted in the *Singapore Gazette*. At the same time they wrote to the Supreme Government at Fort William recommending that, when an application was received for the renewal of the licences of ships in Chinese waters after the expiration of the year for which they were granted, the applicant should be instructed to apply to the Select Committee at Canton, the reason given for this recommendation being that—

> information has been received of the intended purchase of ships belonging to Calcutta for the purpose of becoming opium receiving vessels at Lintin, which might be materially checked by this salutary measure. At present the Commanders and Owners of such vessels feel and declare themselves almost independent of control, and no vessels of war visit this country to regulate their conduct.

A week later, on May 27th, the Committee renewed the licence of the *Sylph*, her commander having taken warning and consented to reship his five seamen; and immediately thereafter it was discovered that the men were engaged with one Henry Steele in a conspiracy to seize the Company's sloop *Louisa*, a handy boat of 70 tons, and with her take piratical possession of one of the opium store-ships. The seizure was to have been effected on the day following that on which the five men were reshipped. Steele, a mate on a New Zealand ship, was arrested and sent to Singapore, to be thence sent to England for trial.

This alarmed the Committee, and under the terms of their existing authority they required of all country ships conformity to the following regulations:

> You are directed to fill up and return to me the enclosed form of Import manifest as soon as the Investment is disposed of, to forward your Export manifest before your departure, and to furnish me with a statement of the register tonnage of the ship under your command.
>
> You are required immediately on your arrival to send your License to the President and Select Committee together with all packets to their address.

There was pretty general resistance to these instructions. Commanders delayed obeying, and only submitted when they required from the Committee something which it was in the power of the Committee to grant or to refuse. Such a 'some-

thing' was the return of the ship's licence when, after repeated applications, it had at last been deposited. One innovation was introduced to which the Committee were not accustomed. Heretofore the Committee had exercised their authority on the commander, who was master in all that concerned his ship; but now, when difficulties arose, the Committee found the 'owner' intervening between their authority and the master of the vessel. During this season the Committee went out of their way to make it clear that there was no ground of complaint against Messrs. Thos. Dent & Co. or their store-ship the *Jane* or their clipper the *Charles Forbes*; but otherwise the Committee conceived that they had cause of complaint against every one connected with every British ship at Lintin. Of these the most conspicuous, in the eyes of the Committee, was the opium-receiving ship *Hercules*, her commander Captain Alexander Grant, and her owners Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.

In the absence of any organized post office, the Committee were necessarily the proper authority over mail matter arriving by British ships and addressed to others than the consignees of the ship. To illustrate the carelessness in connexion with mails, it may be noted that, on June 22, 1833, the Committee wrote to the Governor of Macao complaining that a box packet addressed to the President and Select Committee, containing 118 letters, dispatched by the General Post Office at Calcutta on December 14,1829, by the Portuguese ship *Temerario*, had only on that day been discovered after lying for three years and a half in the Portuguese Custom House. On that same day it is recorded—

> The Steward and Butler of the Factory have reported to the President that on the evening of the 19th after the Bags and Post-office Packets of Letters were delivered to the Steward by the Officer of the *Red Rover* with a list of their number, etc., Captain Grant took from the Company's coolie a large bag of letters and parcels which he untied and discharged the contents on the Table of the Tavern [Richard Markwick's at Macao] altho' informed by our Steward that the letters were delivered to his care to be conveyed as usual to the House of the President or to the Company's Factory, and altho' the officer of the *Red Rover* had refused previously to deliver any bags or pacquets into the hands of any other person than our Steward save a bag containing Portuguese letters only.

As custodians of the rights of the community in general as against the unauthorized action of individuals, the Committee

thought very seriously of this act committed in the presence of Mr. James Innes and Richard Markwick, and against the protests of Henry Skinner, steward to the factory, and John R. Marks, butler, and the secretary wrote to Captain Grant explaining the gravity of his offence, and closing with this demand—

I am directed to desire that you abstain in future from assuming the right of opening or in any way impeding the delivery of letters or despatches, placed in the hands of an authorized servant of the Factory or proceeding in due course to the constituted Authorities.

Captain Grant answered that a reference to Messrs. Innes and Markwick would elicit a complete refutation of the charges against him, and

I trust the Committee will then find that I was guilty of no irregularity in pursuing a course which under similar circumstances must again be adopted, i. e. taking letters and parcels to my own address.

This avoidance of the real charge of opening a mail-bag while in transit to the proper postal authority excited the ire of the Committee—

The spirit of intentional disrespect which pervades that letter cannot be misunderstood, and his expressed determination to adopt a similar line of conduct, on any future occasion, to that complained of in our Secretary's letter to him renders it impossible for us to pass over without notice the communication now received from Captain Grant.

In conformity with this opinion the secretary again, on July 1st, wrote to Captain Grant—

if you do not unequivocally disavow this expressed intention of disobeying their order, they will feel themselves called upon to take immediate measures for the due maintenance of the authority vested in them by the Acts of the Legislature over British Subjects and Shipping resorting to China.

Captain Grant then obtained from Mr. Innes and Mr. Markwick statements of what they witnessed at the tavern, and sent them to the Committee.

Having furnished the Committee with these Documents I have only to add that never having acted in the manner they have thought fit to alledge, nor even having contemplated acting in a manner so completely at variance with my own opinion of correct conduct, *I have nothing to disavow.*

The Committee found that Mr. Innes fully upheld Captain Grant,

but that Mr. Markwick's statement was not at variance with those of the steward and butler; they further decided that

we shall now have no alternative left but to resort to the extreme measures contemplated, for it is impossible we can suffer such contempt for our authority and such disregard for our orders, as that evinced in the letters from Captain Grant, to pass over without visiting it with the strongest mark of displeasure in our power to inflict.

It was more with the tone, which cannot be conveyed by extracts, than with the actual phrases, which were ostentatiously polite, that the Committee were annoyed, and they were influenced in their decision by their feeling that

upon comparing the subject now under consideration with the contumacious proceedings of some of the commanders of the country ships now in the Port [who had very generally produced their licence only after considerable delay and repeated applications], and the conduct lately adopted by the commander [Robert Wallace] and supercargo [Alexander Robertson] of the *Sylph*, together with the violent proceedings of Mr. Innes in April last, with many of which parties Captain Grant and his immediate employers are closely associated, it is impossible not to perceive a systematic and factious opposition to the Company's authority which we feel it our imperative duty to resist by every means in our power both with the view of upholding that authority and of properly maintaining the general Interests of Commerce in this quarter.

The Committee accordingly, by a letter to Captain Grant and by a public notification at the doors of the factory at Canton, issued on July 11th, revoked 'the license under which the Opium Receiving Ship *Hercules* is permitted to resort to China, or any other license which may have been subsequently granted by the Supreme Government or by any of the Presidencies of India'.

The Committee had become so impatient of the persistent and studied resistance to the requirement to send the ships' licences for inspection, that already, on July 9th, they had required of the Hong Merchants that

none of your Body will in future secure Country Ships under the British flag that may hereafter proceed to Whampoa from this date until you receive Instructions from us authorising you so to do.

The Hong Merchants promised acquiescence, and this reduced to obedience the ships which went to Whampoa, but left un-

touched those which went no farther than Lintin and therefore had no occasion for a Security Merchant.

On July 18th the owners, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., wrote saying that

> Having been informed that a Notice declaring the License of the Ship *Hercules* to be thereby withdrawn by the President and Select Committee, has now been stuck up on the Front of the Company's Factory here for three days, and having received no intimation from you of a measure calculated to affect the safety of property to the extent of upwards of one Million of Dollars belonging to ourselves and others, we trust you will not consider us unreasonable in requesting to know what the *Hercules* or her owners have done to induce the putting in jeopardy, property to the extent mentioned, without giving the slightest notice to the parties interested.

The Committee replied expressing their surprise that the firm should have only now been informed of a measure which affected one so closely associated in business with them as their employee Captain Grant, to whom the Committee referred them for particulars of his offences against the authority and dignity of the Company. In view, however, of the great value of the property at stake, belonging to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. and to some Parsee merchants, the Committee reconsidered the matter, on July 24th, and suspended the revocation of the licence of the *Hercules* until the date of expiry of her present licence, viz. September 4th, when they notified it would not be renewed. The battle over the submission of the licences for inspection continued. On July 25th

> The License of the *Ann* which arrived on the 17th instant was this day forwarded from Canton. We are informed privately that this was not done until all the Merchants collectively and individually had been requested by Mr. Jardine to secure the *Ann*, which they all very properly declined, stating that they had not yet received our sanction for so doing. The consignees of the *Ann* are Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Captain Grant sent a formal protest against the proceedings of the Committee, but Mr. Plowden did not feel it necessary for him to attest or to receive a protest against his own acts. In reporting to the Governor-General in Council the two cases of the *Sylph* and the *Hercules*, the Committee wrote as follows :

> The Supra Cargo of the *Sylph* did not hesitate to excuse his conduct by asserting that the men were in the employ of Messrs. Jardine,

Matheson & Co., who resisted our right to oblige their departure to the last extremity, and Captain Grant was at Macao using his utmost exertions to defeat our object, in a case where independent of the necessity of compelling the departure of such men in due regard for the welfare of the British Trade this Party was acting in contravention of the Navigation Act on that particular point. So great has been the desire of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and of Captain Grant as commanding their Opium Ships, to erect themselves into an authority independent of the Committee, that we find on record four years since, Captain Grant to have applied to the Government of Bombay [June 20th, 1829] to grant him a License without the usual forms enacting obedience to our orders, and every procedure of the parties in question has been to shake off all control as lay within their power, nor can we point out much stronger proof of such intention is openly avowed (*sic*) with the evident wish to induce a similar line of conduct on the part of other commercial establishments in Canton. . . . We cannot too strongly animadvert on the necessity of upholding a salutary control over the British Shipping at Whampoa and Lintin ; it is but rarely that the Committee are imperatively called upon to exert it, in such cases as the present, of determined resistance ; and in reference to the Opium Ships in particular, we are willing to make every allowance for the singularity of the position which they occupy at Lintin, and of the great property which they have to dispose of and protect ; but these two causes are eminently calculated to require that every commander should be sensible that acts of violence and aggression, which some are occasionally guilty of indulging in, are subject to our observation and control.

Having learned that Mr. Jardine was 'openly instigating' the Hong Merchants to disregard the direction of the Committee as to securing country ships, and was threatening to appeal to the Hoppo, a letter was written to Howqua asking for information regarding the action taken ; and to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. inquiring if they avowed or disavowed the acts and correspondence of the master of the ship *Hercules*, of which they represented themselves to be the agents or owners. In their reply received July 31st, the firm declared that they thought it strange that they should be referred to a third party for knowledge of measures seriously affecting their ship ; that they could not conceive how Captain Grant's act in opening a gunny bag full of loose letters could in any way, directly or indirectly, affect the licence of the ship *Hercules*, such licences being granted for the protection of the owners and shippers of goods, and remaining in force after the death or resignation of the commander ; and

we hereby give you notice that we solemnly protest against the act of revoking the License of the said Ship *Hercules* our property, and hold you responsible for all losses we have already sustained, or may hereafter sustain, from such License being unjustly by you revoked.

This letter vexed the Committee, in that it made reference only to the opening of the bag of letters, and not to the persistent disregard of their orders and the studied defiance of their authority and control; but they considered that

to such a letter as objectionable in its tone as devoid of truth in its statements we do not deem any reply necessary.

Then followed nearly two months of friction, the Committee trying in vain to obtain a direct expression of avowal or disavowal from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and the commanders of ships consigned to that firm (and others consigned to Mr. Innes) delaying, as long as they could or dared, the production of their licences. The commander of one ship consigned to Mr. Innes was strongly urged by that gentleman to refuse to produce his licence, and when he resisted the request, Mr. Innes made difficulty about paying his freight.

On September 4th the country ship *Lady Hayes* arrived from Calcutta; on September 22nd the Committee received a dispatch from Fort William informing them that licences had been granted to the *Lady Hayes*, the *John Biggar* (an opium ship remaining in China), and the *Hercules*; and on the 24th Captain Grant forwarded the new licence of the *Hercules* for inspection.

In returning the document, the Committee wrote—

We do not think it necessary to specify the several causes of complaint which have recently been brought against you and the ship under your command but to advert generally to the line of conduct which you have adopted, which is not only at variance with that pursued by the masters of the other opium receiving ships but likewise subversive of the safety welfare and good conduct of the Trade. We therefore caution you against any infringement of the provisions of the License granted to the *Hercules*, or of the Free Mariners indentures under which you have been permitted to resort to India and China.

No other course was open to the Committee, for in the meantime their attention, and that of Captain Grant, was directed to more important events.

On August 28th the Künming Fu sent a mandate to the English Chief informing him that on August 7th Grant's country ship

(actually the *Samarang*) moved into Tsinkeo Bay, where she was being broken up, and that on the 17th a Chinese of the Keeow village had been arrested on a charge of stealing the materials, and taken, a prisoner, on board Weichun's ship (actually Captain Grant's ship the *Hercules*) lying in Kumsingmoon; and the Chief was requested to order the prisoner to be released and sent for trial according to Chinese law; and further alleging that, when police runners were sent to demand his surrender, no answer or explanation of the offence committed was given.

That those on the opium fleet should have any regard for Chinese law or judges was not to be expected: their occupation was one continued breach of the law; the only officials that they came in contact with were those they had to pay for conniving at that breach; the units of the Chinese army, navy, or police, that they came into collision with, only excited their derision; the only enemies who were capable of harming them were the pirates, who pervaded every sea and every estuary, and against those they manned their ships with sturdy, well-disciplined and well-armed sailors; and it was their custom to take the law into their own hands, and to extricate themselves from their difficulties by the means provided by themselves. The Committee invariably disclaimed all wish, as they had no power, to control the doings of those ships which, in the euphemism of the day, did not enter the river; and the Chinese authorities, having no ability to keep them in order, invariably called upon the Chief to maintain order among those who, nominally, were subjected to his control.

The Committee then wrote to Captain Grant asking him for a report of what had actually occurred on the 'extraordinary' occasion referred to by the Künming Fu. Captain Grant replied on September 2nd that the prisoner was one of a mob of upwards of a hundred robbers, armed with pikes, spears, and sharp staves, from the other side of the island distant about two miles, who had carried off a considerable quantity of iron and other property stacked up on the shore; that the man had already been released without punishment on his promise to obtain the return of the stolen property; and that no police runners had ever been on board his ship.

The Committee informed the Künming Fu of these facts, which

they accepted as true; but they recorded their doubt (though they did not communicate it to the Künming Fu) of the legality of the act of drawing the *Samarang* on shore and erecting sheds, without permission—

> Everything however connected with the Opium Trade is perfectly anomalous and as the Chinese Government are contented quietly to connive at its continuance, our policy is evidently to disconnect ourselves as much as possible with the subject.

On September 17th Captain Grant informed the Committee that

> the License of the *Hercules* to remain in China for 12 months from the 1st July 1833 having been granted by the Supreme Government to Messrs. Lyall, Matheson & Co. of Calcutta, agents for the owners Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., I beg to refer you to the latter gentlemen for that document.

This document was, however, at the request of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., sent by Captain Grant on September 24th. On September 17th the Committee received from the Künming Fu a mandate informing them that on September 7th

> a Chinese named Hwang Ahsew and his sons went out to sea to sell fish for a livelihood. In passing Kumsingmoon by the side of Weichun's country ship (the *Hercules*) anchored there, the Foreigners on the said ship attempted to buy with violence, and both parties being angry the Foreigners took Hwang Ahsew and pushed him till he fell and sinking in the water was drowned. . . . As the affair concerns the life of a Native the consequences are not light. When this order reaches the English Chief let him immediately take with him a Linguist and fast as a falling star repair to Kumsingmoon, and ascertain clearly how the bloody affray arose . . . and what is the name of the foreign murderer . . . and must give orders to take the foreign murderer and deliver him up. He must not be permitted to escape to a distance, nor may there be connivance or specious denials in a confused reply; this will involve guilt which will be found inexpedient. Hasten! Hasten! A special mandate!

It was remarked that this was the second criminal charge against the opium ships which had been brought officially to the notice of the Committee; and from the length of time which had elapsed since the death, it was inferred that it was so brought after having been referred to the Viceroy at Canton. They further inferred that it was

> a mere pretext and urged perhaps in the hope of dislodging the *Hercules* from the position which she at present occupies in the Kumsingmoon

harbour on the mainland of China, a few miles only from Macao, and so immediately under the observation of the local Authorities of the District as to render it we believe very disagreeable to them. We cannot but bear in mind that Captain Grant has appeared before us under a great variety of implications of disorderly conduct and we are aware that his ship is notorious amongst the Chinese for acts of violence.

They pursued their usual policy in answering the Künming Fu that the Company's ships never resorted to Kumsingmoon, and that

the ships of various Nations which frequent the Kumsingmoon and its vicinity, are quietly suffered to remain at these anchorages by the Officers of Government, who now for some years past have connived at the illicit Trade in Opium, and the Representatives of the E.I. Company cannot be answerable for irregularities committed in this Traffic.

Captain Grant, besides being in command on the *Hercules*, was store-keeper of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s opium afloat, and was, in consequence, much on shore at Canton or at Macao ; and he did not learn of the occurrence of the 7th until the 13th. Then he wrote to the ship and received three statements, which he sent to the Committee, all agreeing that the death was accidental, and one stating that the sons were back the next morning selling their fish as usual. There was some dissatisfaction during the next month. On October 20th a mandate came from the Künming Fu, and on the 24th another from the Viceroy, giving a ' reasonable and civil ', but quite perverted, account of events that had occurred on October 12th and following days. As reported by Captain Grant to his employers, what had happened was this. On the 12th a Chinese, in the act of stealing copper and iron from the wreck of the *Samarang*, was seized by the English gunner of the *Don Manoel*, a Portuguese ship from Damán, and taken on board the *Hercules*, where he was kept in temporary custody. The inhabitants of the Keeow village came in force in the evening of the next day and carried off a tindal (boatswain) ; and in rescuing him, a seacunny (quartermaster) was carried off by the villagers. When this was reported to Captain Grant, who had gone to Macao, he considered that by a show of force alone could the life of the seacunny be saved, and that, situated as he was, he should not appear in the matter ; so he wrote directing that boats, manned and armed, should be

called to volunteer from all the ships in the anchorage, ' all that could be got, Portuguese, Hamburg, Danish, etc., etc.', but they were not to fire; Captain Hector of the *Lady Hayes* was to command. The boats sailed away to the Keeow village, and, as they approached, were fired on by artillery. No boat was hit, but to distract their aim the fire was returned; the boats then sailed back to the ships. As the net result one Chinese was reported wounded. The villagers denied all knowledge of the seacunny, and he was never seen or heard of again. The Committee were now in a delicate position.

We are fully impressed how cautious we must be lest by admissions on our part we become involved with the Government in matters connected with the Opium Ships. It has hitherto been our policy as well as our Interest to profess ourselves ignorant of all that passes without the Bogue and not to interfere with quarrels and disturbances which arise between these vessels and the natives, but we fear the time has been gradually approaching and has now arrived when this system of non interference has reared up a power and encouraged a lawless and piratical mode of procedure which it is absolutely incumbent upon us to put down. Could we be justified in allowing an authority such as we possess supported by specific Acts of the Legislature as well as by reason and justice to be rendered inoperative and worse than useless which assuredly it is, if we the Representatives of the East India Company the only recognized authority in China quietly hear of these proceedings and take no cognizance thereof? It is impossible to say to what extent these acts may not be carried or whether the very existence of the Legal Trade may not be endangered by them. . . . After a most mature consideration of all that has come before us in this matter we most reluctantly arrive at the conclusion that there has been pursued by Captain Grant a series of unjustifiable acts amounting we might almost say to piratical conduct which render him altogether unworthy of the command of any British Vessel. We shall therefore inform him that we consider him amenable to the forfeiture of his Indenture and the Ship of her License. We shall desire him immediately to release the Chinese he has imprisoned and to remove the *Hercules* from the Kumsingmoon anchorage.

To Captain Grant they wrote in this sense. To the Viceroy they wrote in general terms, disclaiming responsibility for anything connected with the illicit trade carried on outside the port, without molestation from the Government, and with which the Company had no concern. Captain Grant replied that his ship had already been prepared for shifting his berth to Lintin, and that the detention of the prisoner on board had led to the

arrest of the villagers alleged to have murdered the sea-cunny.

I shall close the acknowledgement of your letter without further expression of the sentiments it is calculated to excite, than is conveyed in my unqualified disavowal of the conduct imputed to me by the Committee. The grounds on which it declares that I 'for some time past have rendered myself and the *Hercules* notorious for acts of aggression and violence' are I believe all comprised in the present occasion and one former case when a thief (likewise taken in the fact) was confined on board for a few days. In adopting this, our only mode of checking plunder in a country where there is no appeal to the laws, but thro' the intervention of a body which declines intervention, or only interferes against us, I was as I conceive performing a simple duty to the owners of the property committed to my care.

On November 4th the Hong Merchants called with a mandate from the Viceroy informing them that the Chinese wounded at Kumsingmoon (Keeow) had since died, and demanding the surrender of the murderers for trial; and on the other hand, that the principal murderer and the accessory among the villagers who had caused the death of the black foreigner, were now in confinement awaiting their trial. The next day Howqua and Mowqua came to inform the Committee that a mandate would shortly be issued holding the Chief, Mr. Plowden, responsible for the production of the foreign murderer; and that Mowqua's brother, who held official rank, had been charged with the investigation of the affair. The mandate duly arrived, and the Committee replied on November 7th that

we disclaim all connection with the operations of the Opium Ships which remain outside the river unmolested by the Officers of this Province. We cannot be responsible for acts of violence and affrays between these ships and the Chinese. Moreover in the present instance vessels of all nations were concerned.

On the 13th the Viceroy started on a new tack. He adhered to his original demand for the production of the 'foreign murderer', but in a moderate tone and without the use of truculent terms, such as had characterized similar demands from other Viceroys in previous years; and he even went so far as to propose that the accused should be tried at Macao according to foreign law. To this a reply was sent in the same sense as that of the 7th;

but before it was actually dispatched the Hong Merchants stated that

> the Viceroy was very importunate for an answer to his last Edict and that he had expressed to Howqua a wish that we would if possible assist him in bringing the affair to a conclusion on amicable terms, and with this view Howqua proposed that one man, it mattered not who, should be sent to undergo a sort of trial at Macao which would afford an excuse for dropping the business.
>
> This we of course objected to on all accounts.

The Viceroy now appears to have become vexed, and he stirred up his Chinese officials to greater activity, with the result that the Kwangchow Fu sent down a mandate, filled with bitter reproaches against the ingratitude of the Committee, and holding the Hong Merchants responsible for the production of the murderer. The Viceroy was quoted as saying that, although the affair concerned an outside barbarian, it was a common case of reciprocal boxing in which each party lost a life, which could be set one against the other, but still it was better that the facts should be brought out in open court.

Mr. Plowden left for England on January 7, 1834, handing over the Presidency of the Select Committee to Mr. John Francis Davis. On the 24th Mr. Davis records that the mandarin brother of Mowqua the Hong Merchant had gone once to Macao to settle the Kumsingmoon affair in the manner desired by the Viceroy, and, having failed, was threatened with severe penalties. He then returned to Macao with the same mission.

> The result of his second visit to Macao was to procure by the aid of a considerable sum of money, the person of a Malay or other man of colour, either from the town of Macao or from a Junk or Ship in the Harbour, who was persuaded to assume the character of brother to the Lascar reported as having been killed in the same affray. Rushing forward, it was pretended, to save his brother, a musket which he had went off by accident and caused the death of the Chinese.

He was to plead that an aged mother was looking for the return of his murdered brother and himself, but that a tender conscience would not allow him to leave the country without confessing. Howqua being summoned was only after many denials brought to confess that the man was actually in Canton; and

when reminded of the fate of certain accused persons on previous occasions,

> Howqua asseverated in the strongest terms that no such intention existed, but that the man would certainly be released after the forms of a trial had been gone through and the case had been reported to Peking.

Mr. Davis lost no time in appealing to the far-famed justice and benevolence of the Viceroy to order the immediate release of this innocent person. The Viceroy asked how it was that the Committee, who had always disclaimed any power of control over the outside ships, should now intervene on behalf of a murderer who was to be tried in order that the one death might be set against the other; and he ordered the senior merchants to transmit his commands that the Committee were to be tranquil and listen [obey] and not annoy.

Mr. Davis at once replied that the Committee had intervened because the individual in question was *not* connected with the acts of the smugglers, and not because he *was* connected with them. The Viceroy was so far moved by the pertinacity of the Committee that he sent an assurance that the trial would assuredly not lead to the forfeiture of life; and within a month the man was released.

On leaving for England Mr. Plowden recorded a minute dated January 7, 1834—

> The President has remained in China until this late period of the Season in the hope of receiving intelligence as to the expected change in our commercial relations with this Country, but finding that within the next fortnight all the remaining Company's ships will have completed their lading and that there now exists very little probability of such advices being received before the termination of our commercial Season he avails himself of the permission granted him by the Hon'ble Court to return home, as the circumstances under which that permission was applied for urgently require his presence in England.

Had he remained until the following July, he would have found that, under Lord Napier's commission, he was appointed second Superintendent of Trade; as it was, that honour was reserved for Mr. John Francis Davis, who in October moved up to be Chief Superintendent on the death of Lord Napier.

Goods.	British. Company.	British. Private.	British. Total.	American.	Other Flags.	Total.
Woollens	2,127,386	389,958	2,517,344	..	..	..
Cotton Goods	275,217	351,957	627,174	..	..	..
Metals	112,643	48,915	161,558	..	..	..
Furs	..	17,306	17,306	..	..	..
Other Western Products	..	118,584	118,584	..	..	..
Western Products	2,515,246	926,720	3,441,966	2,907,936	..	6,349,902
Cotton	1,842,332	4,884,407	6,726,739	..	..	..
Opium	..	11,618,716	11,618,716	500,000	..	..
Sandalwood	75	41,400	41,475	..	..	..
Tin, Banka	..	92,192	92,192	..	..	..
Pepper	..	190,757	190,757	..	..	..
Other Eastern Produce	..	1,344,448	1,344,448	..	..	..
Eastern Produce	1,842,407	18,171,920	20,014,327	500,000	..	20,514,327
Total Goods	4,357,653	19,098,640	23,456,293	3,407,936	..	26,864,229
Silver	..	20,500	20,500	682,519 [1]	..	703,019
Total Imports	4,357,653	19,119,140	23,476,793	4,090,455	..	27,567,248

[1] In addition bills on London for a total of 4,772,516 dollars.

EXPORT TRADE OF CANTON, SEASON 1833. VALUES IN DOLLARS

Goods.	British. Company.	British. Private.	British. Total.	American.	Other Flags.	Total
Ships: Number	25	82	107	59	23	189
Tonnage	28,167	36,326	64,493	24,000	9,200	97,693
Exports:						
Tea	7,668,115	1,044,586	8,712,701	..	..	..
Raw Silk	..	3,097,167	3,097,167	..	..	..
Silk Piece Goods	..	332,844	332,844	..	..	..
Nankeens	..	22,644	22,644	..	..	..
Sugar	..	264,140	264,140	..	..	..
Other Commodities	..	1,016,141 [1]	1,016,141	..	..	..
Total Goods	7,668,115	5,777,522	13,445,637	..	..	..
Silver and Gold	155,030	6,576,585 [2]	6,731,615	..	..	..
	7,823,145	12,354,107	20,177,252	..	..	..
Disbursements:						
Port Dues	124,889					
Factory Expenses	141,128	274,000	796,017	..	..	..
Ship Expenses	256,000					
	522,017	274,000	796,017	..	..	..
Cost of Investment	8,345,162	12,628,107	20,973,269	..	..	..

[1] Including cassia, 17,607 piculs, 145,258 dollars; South American copper, 10,907 piculs, 218,140 dollars.
[2] Including gold to value of 513,795 dollars.

DUTY AND CUSTOM CHARGES ON CERTAIN IMPORTS, JANUARY 1832

	Ching-heang. Imperial duty.	*Kia Sam. Surtax. 30 per ct.*	*Tam Tow. Weigher's fee.*	*Hangyung. Consoo charge.*	*Kwei. Custom.*	*Total.*	*Sze Li. Trade rule.*	*Nominal duty.*
	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.
Cotton, piculs . . .	0·150	0·045	0·150	0·240	..	0·580	0·920	1·500
Cotton twist, piculs . .	0·100	0·030	0·150	..	..	0·280	1·520	1·700
Betel-nut, piculs . . .	0·070	0·021	0·150	0·150	..	0·391	0·189	0·580
Rattans, ,, . . .	0·100	0·030	0·150	0·150	..	0·430	0·170	0·600
Sandalwood	0·850	0·255	0·150	0·450	0·080	1·785	0·415	2.200
Pepper	0·400	0·120	0·150	0·300	..	0·970	0·430	1·400
Iron	0·100	0·030	0·150	..	0·034	0·314	0·180	0·494
Lead	0·300	0·090	0·150	0·135	..	0·675	0·325	1·000
Tin	0·800	0·240	0·150	0·405	..	1·595	0·605	2·200
Copper	0·400	0·120	0·150	0·450	..	1·120	0·780	1·900
Quicksilver	1·200	0·360	0·150	..	..	1·710	0·350	2·060
Broadcloth, Chang (4 yards) .	0·500	0·150	0·015	..	..	0·665	8 per ct.	?
Camlet (4 yards) . . .	0·600	0·180	0·015	..	..	0·795	,,	..
Long Ells, piece . . .	0·150	0·045	0·0075	..	..	0·2025	5 per ct.	..
Calicoes, 1st sort . . .	0·500	0·150	0·0075	..	..	0·6575	7 per ct.	..
,, 2nd ,, . . .	0·220	0·066	0·0075	..	..	0·2935	..	..
,, 3rd ,, . . .	0·050	0·015	0·015	..	..	0·080	..	..

Broadcloth, 1st and 2nd qualities, assumed to be 4 chang, 8 chih (19·2 yards long); duty will, therefore, be Tls. 3·182 on a piece.

Camlets (14 chang, 8 chih = 59 yards), duty Tls. 11·766 per piece.

OPIUM STATEMENT, SEASON 1833

	Bengal. Chests.	*Malwa.* Chests.	*Turkey.* Chests.	*Total.* Chests.
Stock in hand, April 1, 1833	2,190	973	..	3,163
Imports during season:				
on British account	7,511	10,103	..	17,614
,, Portuguese ,,	1,000	1,600	..	2,600
,, American ,,	..	..	963	963
	10,701	12,676	963	24,340
Deliveries:				
at Lintin	8,672	11,114	963	20,749
at Macao } at North-East Coast }	863	601	..	1,464
	9,535	11,715	963	22,213
Stock in hand, March 31, 1834	1,166	961	..	2,127
Value of deliveries in dollars:	6,089,634	7,916,971	500,000	14,506,605
Market prices in dollars:				
Highest	765	780 }	? 520	
Lowest	545	585 }		

SUMMARY OF FEES PAID ON OPENING A NEW HONG IN 1829

	Tls.	Tls.
To the Hoppo	20,000	
his Menshang (Gatekeeper)	4,000	
his King Sheng (Secretaries)	3,000	
the Superintendents of six offices	2,600	
other miscellaneous payments	5,996	
Total Hoppo's Department		35,596
To the Viceroy's Menshang	200	
others on his staff	1,420	
Total Viceroy's Department		1,620
To the Fooyuen's Department		1,010
To the Namhoi Hien	1,000	
his Menshang	200	
his subordinates	192	
Total Namhoi Hien		1,392
For impressing the seal		1,400
To various other subordinates		1,006
Total fees paid for admission		42,024

EAST INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS AT CANTON, 1821–33

Year.	*Ship.*	*Tons B. M.*	*Units (Chinese).*	*Measurage.*			*Security Merchant.*	*Remarks.*
				Basic. Tls.	*Presents.* Tls.	*Total.* Tls.		
1821	Herefordshire	1,295	325·4	2,423	1,950	4,373	Kinqua.	
,,	Inglis	1,321	322·6	2,403	1,950	4,353	Mowqua.	
,,	Royal George	1,350	334·7	2,493	1,950	4,443	Chunqua.	
,,	Hythe	1,350	335·6	2,500	1,950	4,450	Exchin.	
,,	Minerva	1,200	276·9	2,062	1,950	4,012	Conseequa.	
,,	Bombay	1,279	282·4	2,103	1,950	4,053	Manhop.	
,,	Windsor	1,358	335·3	2,497	1,950	4,447	Poonequa.	
,,	Farquharson	1,362	332·0	2,472	1,950	4,422	Goqua.	
,,	Repulse	1,332	343·5	2,559	1,950	4,509	Fatqua.	
,,	Kent	1,332	333·3	2,483	1,950	4,433	Kinqua.	
,,	Kellie Castle	1,418	336·5	2,506	1,950	4,456	Kinqua.	
,,	Charles Grant	1,252	294·1	2,191	1,950	4,141	Chunqua.	
,,	Marquis Camden	1,285	334·4	2,491	1,950	4,441	Mowqua.	
,,	Bridgewater	1,294	312·0	2,324	1,950	4,274	Exchin.	
,,	Waterloo	1,403	318·7	2,374	1,950	4,324	Conseequa.	Company's own Ship.
,,	Lowther Castle	1,454	356·7	2,657	1,950	4,607	Manhop.	
,,	Atlas	1,359	310·0	2,309	1,950	4,259	Poonequa.	
,,	General Harris	1,373	319·8	2,382	1,950	4,332	Goqua.	
,,	General Kyd	1,318	312·0	2,324	1,950	4,274	Kinqua.	
,,	Scaleby Castle	1,200	278·4	2,074	1,950	4,024	Fatqua.	Company's own Ship.
,,	Vansittart	1,311	300·1	2,235	1,950	4,185	Kinqua.	
1822	Berwickshire	1,200	340·7	2,538	1,950	4,488	Kinqua.	
,,	General Harris	1,373	324·8	2,419	1,950	4,369	Chunqua.	
,,	Duke of York	1,200	318·0	2,378	1,950	4,328	Mowqua.	
,,	Marquis Camden	1,285	330·6	2,462	1,950	4,412	Puankhequa.	
,,	Marquis of Huntly	1,200	320·8	2,389	1,950	4,339	Manhop.	
,,	Lady Melville	1,200	325·7	2,426	1,950	4,376	Exchin.	
,,	Princess Amelia	1,200	306·2	2,281	1,950	4,231	Poonequa.	
,,	Buckinghamshire	1,200	313·9	2,338	1,950	4,288	Goqua.	

Year.	Ship.	Tons B. M.	Units (Chinese).	Measurage. Basic.	Presents.	Total.	Security Merchant.	Remarks.
				Tls.	Tls.	Tls.		
1822	Dunira	1,200	331·7	2,470	1,950	4,420	Kinqua.	
,,	Thomas Coutts	1,200	332·3	2,475	1,950	4,425	Fatqua.	
,,	Orwell	1,200	331·1	2,466	1,950	4,416	Mowqua.	
,,	William Fairlie	1,200	324·0	2,413	1,950	4,363	Chunqua.	
,,	Macqueen	1,200	336·9	2,509	1,950	4,459	Poonequa.	
,,	Castle Huntly	1,200	307·8	2,293	1,950	4,243	Puankhequa.	
,,	Sir David Scott	1,315	314·6	2,343	1,950	4,293	Manhop.	
,,	Earl of Balcarras	1,417	325·9	2,428	1,950	4,378	Poonequa.	
,,	Canning	1,200	330·4	2,461	1,950	4,411	Goqua	Company's own ships.
,,	London	1,200	332·8	2,478	1,950	4,428	Kinqua	
,,	Duchess of Athol	1,330	..	..	..	..	Particulars not recorded.	
,,	Regent	Stranded outward bound on Philippines; lading of English woollens almost valueless.						
1823	Thames	1,342	323·7	2,411	1,950	4,361	The Hong collectively.	
,,	Bombay	1,238	289·8	2,158	1,950	4,108	Puiqua.	
,,	Charles Grant	1,260	295·5	2,201	1,950	4,151	Puiqua.	
,,	Inglis	1,230	315·2	2,348	1,950	4,298	Mowqua.	
,,	Herefordshire	1,225	319·1	2,377	1,950	4,327	Puankhequa.	
,,	Lowther Castle	1,446	341·7	2,659	1,950	4,609	Puankhequa.	
,,	Waterloo	1,318	329·1	2,451	1,950	4,401	Mowqua.	Company's own Ship.
,,	Royal George	1,350	329·7	2,456	1,950	4,406	Fatqua.	
,,	Kellie Castle	1,358	324·3	2,415	1,950	4,365	Goqua.	
,,	Farquharson	1,362	326·0	2,428	1,950	4,378	Exchin.	
,,	Kent	1,332	333·0	2,480	1,950	4,430	Kinqua.	
,,	Warren Hastings	1,419	323·2	2,407	1,950	4,357	Poonequa.	
,,	Vansittart	1,269	329·8	2,456	1,950	4,406	Chunqua.	
,,	General Kyd	1,228	323·7	2,411	1,950	4,361	Manhop.	
,,	Atlas	1,225	323·7	2,411	1,950	4,361	Chunqua.	
,,	Repulse	1,332	338·5	2,521	1,950	4,471	Manhop.	
,,	Scaleby Castle	1,221	299·3	2,229	1,950	4,179	Exchin.	Company's own Ship.
,,	Bridgewater	1,275	308·3	2,296	1,950	4,246	Poonequa.	
,,	Hythe	1,379	306·4	2,305	1,950	4,255	Goqua.	
,,	Windsor	1,432	302·0	2,249	1,950	4,199	Kinqua.	

,,	Buckinghamshire	1,246	..	..	..	..	Company's own Ship.
1824	Thomas Coutts	1,375	317·9	2,367	1,950	4,317	Puiqua.
,,	Duke of York	1,356	314·9	2,345	1,950	4,295	Mowqua.
,,	Berwickshire	1,375	320·1	2,384	1,950	4,334	Chunqua.
,,	Dunira	1,372	320·6	2,388	1,950	4,338	Puankhequa.
,,	Orwell	1,376	316·5	2,358	1,950	4,308	Exchin.
,,	Duchess of Atholl	1,341	321·8	2,397	1,950	4,347	Manhop.
,,	Princess Amelia	1,381	298·3	2,222	1,950	4,172	Poonequa.
,,	Castle Huntly	1,267	307·1	2,287	1,950	4,237	Goqua.
,,	Macqueen	1,440	315·6	2,350	1,950	4,300	Kinqua.
,,	Marquis of Huntly	1,315	311·1	2,317	1,950	4,267	Fatqua.
,,	Marquis Camden	1,289	309·8	2,307	1,950	4,257	Puiqua.
,,	Thames	1,342	320·8	2,389	1,950	4,339	Mowqua.
,,	General Harris	1,260	300·8	2,240	1,950	4,190	Chunqua.
,,	William Fairlie	1,393	307·5	2,290	1,950	4,240	Puankhequa.
,,	Lady Melville	1,291	311·4	2,319	1,950	4,269	Exchin.
,,	Earl of Balcarras	1,317	321·0	2,391	1,950	4,341	Manhop.
,,	Sir David Scott	1,392	314·6	2,343	1,950	4,293	Poonequa.
,,	Canning	1,307	316·8	2,360	1,950	4,310	Fatqua. Company's own Ship.
,,	London	1,330	321·1	2,392	1,950	4,342	Puiqua. ,, ,, ,,
,,	Moffat	821	207·6	1,546	1,950	3,496	Goqua. } Loaded for Canada.
,,	Juliana	534	140·1	959	1,950	2,909	Kinqua. }
1825	Lowther Castle	1,446	318·9	2,375	1,950	4,325	Puiqua.
,,	Waterloo	1,318	297·7	2,217	1,950	4,167	,, Company's own ship.
,,	Warren Hastings	1,419	300·8	2,241	1,950	4,191	,,
,,	Buckinghamshire	1,246	311·0	2,317	1,950	4,267	Mowqua. Company's own ship.
,,	Kellie Castle	1,358	309·8	2,307	1,950	4,257	,,
,,	Scaleby Castle	1,221	307·5	2,148	1,950	4,098	,, Company's own ship.
,,	Bombay	1,238	267·3	1,991	1,950	3,941	Puankhequa.
,,	Hythe	1,379	321·4	2,394	1,950	4,344	,,
,,	Repulse	1,332	322·0	2,399	1,950	4,349	Chunqua.
,,	Vansittart	1,269	298·3	2,222	1,950	4,172	,,
,,	Inglis	1,230	305·3	2,274	1,950	4,224	Manhop.
,,	Duke of York	1,356	311·7	2,321	1,950	4,271	,,
,,	Atlas	1,225	307·2	2,288	1,950	4,238	Poonequa.

Year.	Ship.	Tons B. M.	Units (Chinëse).	Measurage. Basic. Tls.	Measurage. Presents. Tls.	Measurage. Total. Tls.	Security Merchant.	Remarks.
1825	Farquharson	1,362	315·6	2,350	1,950	4,300	Poonequa.	
,,	Bridgewater	1,275	296·3	2,207	1,950	4,157	Goqua.	
,,	Windsor	1,432	305·3	2,274	1,950	4,224	,,	
,,	General Kyd	1,228	297·6	2,217	1,950	4,167	Kinqua.	
,,	Herefordshire	1,225	296·4	2,208	1,950	4,158	Fatqua.	
,,	Royal George	1,350	..	..	..	3,738	Burnt in port at Whampoa.	Measurage remitted by Emperor.
,,	Charles Grant	1,260	280·6	2,090	1,950	4,040	Puankhequa.	
,,	Roxburgh Castle	900	180·5	1,344	1,950	3,294	Fatqua.	Loaded for Canada.
,,	Countess of Harcourt	517	154·0	1,147	1,950	3,097	Chunqua.	Loaded for Canada.
,,	Orient	800	165·1	1,229	1,950	3,179	Manhop.	Loaded for Canada.
1826	Henry Porcher	509	149·8	1,025	1,950	2,975	Poonequa.	
,,	Broxbornebury	849	203·3	1,514	1,950	3,464	Goqua.	
,,	Marquis of Hastings	451	148·9	1,019	1,905	2,969	Kinqua.	
,,	Java	1,184	277·5	2,067	1,950	4,017	Fatqua.	
,,	Abercrombie Robinson	1,386	304·3	2,266	1,950	4,216	Puiqua.	
,,	Berwickshire	1,375	313·6	2,335	1,950	4,285	,,	
,,	Edinburgh	1,315	307·2	2,288	1,950	4,238	Mowqua.	
,,	Orwell	1,376	311·4	2,319	1,950	4,269	,,	
,,	Canning	1,307	311·7	2,321	1,950	4,271	Puankhequa.	Company's own ship.
,,	Marquis Camden	1,289	300·5	2,238	1,950	4,188	,,	
,,	Moffat	814	201·7	1,502	1,950	3,452	,,	
,,	General Harris	1,260	295·7	2,202	1,950	4,152	Chunqua.	
,,	Macqueen	1,440	314·9	2,346	1,950	4,296	,,	
,,	London	1,330	305·6	2,276	1,950	4,226	Manhop.	Company's own ship.
,,	Earl of Balcarras	1,317	318·0	2,368	1,950	4,318	,,	
,,	Thomas Coutts	1,375	301·8	2,248	1,950	4,198	Poonequa.	
,,	Castle Huntly	1,267	300·8	2,240	1,950	4,190	,,	
,,	William Fairlie	1,393	313·6	2,336	1,950	4,286	Goqua.	
,,	George the Fourth	1,373	310·1	2,309	1,950	4,259	,,	Company's own ship.
,,	Lord Lowther	1,353	311·0	2,316	1,950	4,266	Kinqua.	
,,	Marquis of Huntly	1,315	305·5	2,276	1,950	4,226	,,	

,,	Duchess of Atholl	1,341	293·8	2,188	1,950	4,138	Fatqua.
,,	Sir David Scott	1,392	300·1	2,235	1,950	4,185	,,
,,	Winchelsea	1,378	309·8	2,307	1,950	4,257	Mowqua.
,,	England	474	136·3	932	1,950	2,882	Chunqua.
,,	Princess Amelia	1,381	280·2	2,087	1,950	4,037	Poonequa.
,,	Asia (Adamson)	558	149·9	1,025	1,950	2,975	Goqua.
,,	Thames	1,342	312·3	2,326	1,950	4,276	Kinqua.
,,	Isabella	591	174·0	1,296	1,950	3,246	Fatqua.
,,	Lord Amherst ?	500	150·5	1,030	1,950	2,980	Fatqua. For Halifax.
,,	Asia (Stead) ?	500	152·0	1,040	1,950	2,990	Mowqua. } For Quebec.
,,	Ann and Amelia	586	176·7	1,316	1,950	3,266	Manhop. }
,,	Lady Melville	1,291	303·7	2,262	1,950	4,212	Manhop.
,,	Dunira	1,372	306·6	2,283	1,950	4,233	Puankhequa.
1827	Boyne	595	166·6	1,241	1,950	3,191	Goqua.
,,	Alfred	733	189·0	1,408	1,950	3,358	Howqua.
,,	Kellie Castle	1,373	318·5	2,372	1,950	4,322	Mowqua.
,,	Duke of Sussex	1,396	315·5	2,350	1,950	4,300	,,
,,	Lord Hungerford	786	192·4	1,433	1,950	3,383	,,
,,	Vansittart	1,253	260·7	1,942	1,950	3,892	,,
,,	Bridgewater	1,298	302·6	2,253	1,950	4,203	Puankhequa.
,,	Hythe	1,359	311·4	2,319	1,950	4,269	,,
,,	General Kyd	1,242	298·6	2,224	1,950	4,174	,,
,,	Scaleby Castle	1,226	278·8	2,077	1,950	4,027	,, Company's own ship.
,,	Broxbornebury	786	211·4	1,575	1,950	3,525	Chunqua.
,,	Duke of York	1,351	304·0	2,264	1,950	4,214	,,
,,	Atlas	1,263	293·0	2,182	1,950	4,132	,,
,,	Windsor	1,404	303·4	2,259	1,950	4,209	,,
,,	Repulse	1,348	307·2	2,288	1,950	4,238	Manhop
,,	Bombay	1,230	263·8	1,965	1,950	3,915	,,
,,	Marquis of Hastings	498	137·4	939	1,950	2,889	,,
,,	Inglis	1,249	323·0	2,405	1,950	4,355	,,
,,	Herefordshire	1,247	281·6	2,097	1,950	4,047	Goqua.
,,	Guildford	593	156·2	1,163	1,950	3,113	,,
,,	Buckinghamshire	1,315	298·3	2,222	1,950	4,172	,, Company's own ship.
,,	Barossa	756	213·2	1,588	1,950	3,538	Kinqua.

Year.	Ship.	Tons B. M.	Units (Chinese).	Measurage. Basic.	Presents.	Total.	Security Merchant.	Remarks.
				Tls.	Tls.	Tls.		
1827	Charles Grant	1,181	276·8	2,062	1,950	4,012	Kinqua.	
,,	Lowther Castle	1,413	301·8	2,248	1,950	4,198	Fatqua.	
,,	Waterloo	1,297	307·8	2,292	1,950	4,242	,,	Company's own ship.
,,	Farquharson	1,384	307·2	2,288	1,950	4,238	,,	
,,	Astell	800	216·3	1,611	1,950	3,561	Kinqua.	For Halifax.
,,	Larkins	714	..	..	..	..		For Quebec.
1828	Berwickshire	1,332	313·2	2,333	1,950	4,283	Howqua.	
,,	London	1,332	301·5	2,245	1,950	4,195	Mowqua.	Company's own ship.
,,	Sir David Scott	1,342	309·4	2,305	1,950	4,255	,,	
,,	Macqueen	1,333	312·0	2,324	1,950	4,274	,,	
,,	Thomas Coutts	1,334	309·1	2,302	1,950	4,252	,,	
,,	Dunira	1,325	311·0	2,317	1,950	4,267	Puankhequa.	
,,	Abercrombie Robinson	1,330	305·3	2,274	1,950	4,224	,,	
,,	Earl of Balcarras	1,417	328·6	2,447	1,950	4,397	,,	
,,	Canning	1,326	305·0	2,281	1,950	4,231	Chunqua.	Company's own ship.
,,	Castle Huntly	1,311	289·7	2,158	1,950	4,108	,,	
,,	Marquis Camden	1,260	307·5	2,290	1,950	4,240	,,	
,,	General Harris	1,283	302·3	2,252	1,950	4,202	,,	
,,	Edinburgh	1,325	301·1	2,243	1,950	4,193	Goqua.	
,,	Marquis of Huntly	1,279	310·4	2,312	1,950	4,262	,,	
,,	William Fairlie	1,348	311·0	2,317	1,950	4,267	,,	
,,	Orwell	1,335	310·7	2,314	1,950	4,264	Kinqua.	
,,	Reliance	1,415	324·7	2,419	1,950	4,369	,,	
,,	Lord Lowther	1,332	311·4	2,319	1,950	4,269	,,	
,,	George the Fourth	1,329	312·0	2,324	1,950	4,274	Fatqua.	Company's own ship.
,,	Duchess of Athol	1,330	308·8	2,300	1,950	4,250	Fatqua.	
,,	Lady Kennaway	583	162·6	1,211	1,950	3,161	,,	To Halifax.
,,	Lord William Bentinck	564	178·8	1,332	1,950	3,282	Puankhequa.	To Halifax.
1829	Duke of York	1,432	310·7	2,314	1,950	4,264	Howqua.	
,,	Repulse	1,351	316·2	2,355	1,950	4,305	,,	
,,	Lady Melville	1,272	305·6	2,276	1,950	4,226	,,	
,,	Windsor	1,428	310·4	2,312	1,950	4,262	Mowqua.	

,,	Inglis	1,253	315·6	2,350	1,950	4,300	,,	
,,	Buckinghamshire	1,318	304·6	2,269	1,950	4,219	,,	Company's own ship.
,,	Lowther Castle	1,598	332·4	2,476	1,950	4,426	,,	
,,	General Kyd	1,196	302·6	2,253	1,950	4,203	Puankhequa.	
,,	Atlas	1,353	301·8	2,248	1,950	4,198	,,	
,,	Thames	1,378	312·7	2,329	1,950	4,279	,,	
,,	Herefordshire	1,238	298·5	2,223	1,950	4,173	Goqua.	
,,	Scaleby Castle	1,305	289·2	2,154	1,950	4,104	,,	Company's own ship.
,,	Farquharson	1,413	312·3	2,326	1,950	4,276	,,	
,,	Charles Grant	1,320	277·2	2,065	1,950	4,015	Kinqua.	
,,	Vansittart	1,340	293·8	2,188	1,950	4,138	,,	
,,	Hythe	1,398	312·0	2,324	1,950	4,274	,,	
,,	Kellie Castle	1,381	311·4	2,319	1,950	4,269	Fatqua.	
,,	Waterloo	1,384	315·5	2,350	1,950	4,300	,,	Company's own ship.
,,	Duke of Sussex	1,414	315·9	2,353	1,950	4,303	,,	
,,	Morley	495	160·2	1,193	1,950	3,143	Kinqua.	
,,	Surrey	512	148·5	1,013	1,950	2,963	Fatqua.	
,,	Mangles	594	..	..	..	..		To Halifax.
,,	Asia	500	..	..	..	..		To Halifax.
,,	Bridgewater	1,298	289·5	2,155	1,950	4,105	Howqua.	
1830	Larkins	687	181·5	1,352	1,950	3,302	,,	
,,	Thomas Coutts	1,382	309·1	2,302	1,719	4,021	,,	
,,	Abercrombie Robinson	1,419	305·3	2,273	1,719	3,992	,,	
,,	Berwickshire	1,390	307·5	2,290	1,719	4,009	Mowqua.	
,,	William Fairlie	1,394	311·0	2,316	1,719	4,035	,,	
,,	Canning	1,313	305·0	2,271	1,719	3,990	Puankhequa.	Company's own ship
,,	Duchess of Athol	1,377	305·3	2,273	1,719	3,992	,,	
,,	Sir David Scott	1,407	300·1	2,235	1,719	3,954	Goqua.	
,,	Edinburgh	1,386	301·1	2,242	1,719	3,961	,,	
,,	General Harris	1,265	295·7	2,202	1,719	3,921	Kinqua.	
,,	Macqueen	1,446	308·2	2,295	1,719	4,014	,,	
,,	Dunira	1,385	311·0	2,316	1,719	4,035	Fatqua.	
,,	Lord Lowther	1,407	305·3	2,273	1,719	3,992	,,	
,,	London	1,335	301·5	2,245	1,719	3,964	Chungwo.	Company's own ship.
,,	Astell	898	221·4	1,648	1,719	3,367	,,	

Year.	Ship.	Tons. B. M.	Units (Chinese).	Measurage. Basic.	Presents.	Total.	Security Merchant.	Remarks.
				Tls.	Tls.	Tls.		
1830	Reliance	1,527	324·7	2,418	1,719	4,137	Hengtae.	
,,	Orwell	1,450	309·4	2,304	1,719	4,023	,,	
,,	Castle Huntly	1,313	289·7	2,157	1,719	3,876	Shuntae.	
,,	George the Fourth	1,405	310·1	2,309	1,719	4,028	,,	Company's own ship.
,,	Marquis Camden	1,369	300·5	2,238	1,719	3,957	Yunwo.	
,,	Earl Balcarras	1,372	318·0	2,368	1,719	4,087	,,	Company's own ship.
,,	Ann and Amelia	586	176·7	1,315	1,719	3,034	Mowqua.	Halifax and Quebec.
1831	Inglis	1,438	309·8	2,307	1,719	4,026	Howqua.	
,,	Duke of Sussex	1,390	315·9	2,352	1,719	4,071	,,	
,,	Lady Melville	1,261	305·6	2,276	1,719	3,995	Mowqua.	
,,	General Kyd	1,268	302·6	2,253	1,719	3,972	,,	
,,	Waterloo	1,365	315·5	2,349	1,719	4,068	Puankequa.	Company's own ship.
,,	Repulse	1,355	316·2	2,355	1,719	4,074	,,	
,,	Farquharson	1,471	310·4	2,311	1,719	4,030	Goqua.	
,,	Buckinghamshire	1,358	304·6	2,268	1,719	3,987	,,	Company's own ship.
,,	Hythe	1,391	312·0	2,323	1,719	4,042	Kinqua.	
,,	Duke of York	1,353	308·5	2,297	1,719	4,016	,,	
,,	Vansittart	1,245	293·8	2,187	1,719	3,906	Fatqua.	
,,	Bombay	1,391	275·6	2,052	1,719	3,771	,,	
,,	Herefordshire	1,268	298·5	2,223	1,719	3,942	Chungwo.	
,,	Thames	1,365	307·5	2,290	1,719	4,009	,,	
,,	Marquis of Huntly	1,436	305·5	2,275	1,719	3,994	Hengtae	
,,	Rose	981	253·4	1,887	1,719	3,606	,,	
,,	Lowther Castle	1,562	325·2	2,422	1,719	4,141	Shuntae	
,,	Scaleby Castle	1,276	283·7	2,112	1,719	3,831	Yunwo.	Company's own ship.
,,	Warren Hastings	1,075	255·7	1,904	1,719	3,623	Howqua.	
,,	Coldstream	743	184·7	1,375	1,719	3,094	Mowqua.	For Quebec.
,,	Mangles	594	171·0	1,273	1,719	2,992	Yunwo.	For Halifax and Quebec.
,,	Hooghly	446	146·1	999	1,719	2,718	Puankhequa.	
,,	Winchelsea	1,384	306·6	2,414	1,719	4,133	Goqua.	
,,	Larkins	714	181·5	1,351	1,719	3,070	Kinqua.	
,,	Hannah	489	..	..	..	..		

1832	Lord Lowther	1,447	305·3	2,273	1,719	3,992	Mowqua.
,,	Thomas Coutts	1,393	309·1	2,302	1,719	4,021	,,
,,	Canning	1,308	305·0	2,271	1,719	3,990	Puankhequa. Company's own ship.
,,	Earl of Balcarras	1,370	318·0	2,368	1,719	4,087	,, ,, ,,
,,	Duchess of Athol	1,349	305·3	2,273	1,719	3,992	Goqua.
,,	Abercrombie Robinson	1,391	305·3	2,273	1,719	3,992	,,
,,	Edinburgh	1,444	301·1	2,242	1,719	3,961	Kinqua.
,,	London	1,324	301·5	2,245	1,719	3,964	,, Company's own ship.
,,	Berwickshire	1,461	307·5	2,290	1,719	4,008	Fatqua.
,,	Dunira	1,375	311·0	2,316	1,719	4,035	,,
,,	Macqueen	1,415	308·2	2,295	1,719	4,014	Chungwo.
,,	William Fairlie	1,399	311·0	2,316	1,719	4,035	,,
,,	Orwell	1,426	309·4	2,304	1,719	4,023	Hengtae
,,	Charles Grant	1,297	277·2	2,064	1,719	3,783	,,
,,	Asia	1,046	246·2	1,833	1,719	3,552	Shuntae
,,	Windsor	1,577	310·4	2,311	1,719	4,030	,,
,,	George the Fourth	1,366	309·1	2,292	1,719	4,011	Yunwo. Company's own ship.
,,	Marquis of Camden	1,500	300·5	2,238	1,719	3,957	,,
,,	Barossa	730	204·6	1,523	1,719	3,242	Mowqua. For Quebec.
,,	Broxbornebury	751	207·6	1,546	1,719	3,265	Puankhequa. For Quebec.
,,	Reliance	1,518	324·7	2,418	1,719	4,137	Goqua.
,,	Sir David Scott	1,358	300·1	2,235	1,719	3,954	Kinqua.
,,	Moffat	821	207·6	1,546	1,719	3,265	Fatqua. For Halifax.
1833	Marquis of Huntly	1,348	305·5	2,275	1,719	3,994	Howqua.
,,	Duke of Sussex	1,336	315·9	2,352	1,719	4,071	Mowqua.
,,	Herefordshire	1,354	298·5	2,223	1,719	3,942	,,
,,	Scaleby Castle	1,242	283·7	2,112	1,719	3,831	Puankhequa. Company's own ship.
,,	Inglis	1,321	309·8	2,307	1,719	4,026	,,
,,	Minerva	989	250·7	1,973	1,719	3,692	Goqua.
,,	Thomas Grenville	886	220·1	1,639	1,719	3,358	,, Company's own ship.
,,	Waterloo	1,325	309·7	2,349	1,719	4,068	Kinqua. Company's own ship.
,,	Kellie Castle	1,332	309·8	2,439	1,719	4,158	,,
,,	Farquharson	1,406	310·4	2,311	1,719	4,030	Fatqua.
,,	Vansittart	1,311	293·8	2,187	1,719	3,906	,,
,,	Prince Regent	992	246·0	1,831	1,719	3,550	Hengtae.

Year.	*Ship.*	*Tons B. M.*	*Units (Chinese).*	*Measurage.*			*Security Merchant.*	*Remarks.*
				Basic.	*Presents.*	*Total.*		
				Tls.	Tls.	Tls.		
1833	Warren Hastings	1,068	255·7	1,904	1,719	3,623	Hengtae	
,,	Thames	1,425	307·5	2,290	1,719	4,009	Chungwo.	
,,	Lowther Castle	1,507	325·2	2,422	1,719	4,141	,,	
,,	Lady Melville	1,350	305·6	2,276	1,719	3,995	Shuntae.	
,,	Castle Huntly	1,353	300·1	2,235	1,719	3,954	,,	
,,	Bombay	1,279	275·6	2,052	1,719	3,771	Yunwo.	
,,	Buckinghamshire	1,369	304·0	2,264	1,719	3,983	Mowqua.	Company's own ship.
,,	Rose	1,024	249·1	1,855	1,719	3,574	Yunwo.	
,,	Larkins	700	176·9	1,317	1,719	3,036	Tongshun.	
,,	David Clarke	500	..	..	..	..		
,,	Moira	? 550	168·4	1,254	1,719	2,973	Kinqua.	
,,	William Money	? 750	197·7	1,630	1,719	3,349	Fatqua.	
,,	Elizabeth	? 450	156·7	1,167	1,719	2,886	Goqua.	

OPIUM. 1818–27

	Bengal.		*Malwa.*		*Total.*	
	Chests.	Value. Dollars.	Chests.	Value. Dollars.	Chests.	Value. Dollars.
1818–19	3,050	3,050,000	1,530	1,109,250	4,580	4,159,250
1819–20	2,970	3,667,950	1,630	1,915,250	4,600	5,583,200
1820–1	3,050	5,795,000	1,720	2,605,800	4,770	8,400,800
1821–2	2,910	6,038,250	1,718	2,276,350	4,628	8,314,600
1822–3	1,822	2,828,930	4,000	5,160,000	5,822	7,988,930
1823–4	2,910	4,656,000	4,172	3,859,100	7,082	8,515,100
1824–5	2,655	3,119,625	6,000	4,500,000	8,655	7,619,625
1825–6	3,442	3,141,755	6,179	4,466,450	9,621	7,608,205
1826–7	3,661	3,668,565	6,308	5,941,520	9,969	9,610,085
1827–8	5,134	5,125,156	4,401	5,299,920	9,535	10,425,076
Total in 10 years .	31,604	41,091,231	37,658	37,133,640	69,262	78,224,871

IMPORTS BY AMERICAN VESSELS AT CANTON, 1804–28

Year.	Dollars.	Ginseng.	Opium.	Quicksilver.	Furs.	Cotton.	Sandalwood.	Total Value.
		Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Dollars.
1804–5	2,902,000	1,880	..	..	269,756	4,219	900	3,555,818
1805–6	4,176,000	1,234	102	48	195,600	8,001	1,600	5,326,358
1806–7	2,895,000	1,708	180	1,672	298,600	..	2,700	3,877,362
1807–8	3,032,000	1,475	150	57	130,400	4,680	2,000	3,940,090
1808–9	70,000	..	..	..	50,500	2,050	2,000	479,550
1809–10	4,723,000	1,364	32	18	49,500	17,757	1,815	5,744,600
1810–11	2,330,000	1,164	..	..	83,500	1,905	496	2,898,800
1811–12	1,876,000	1,557	200	29	366,300	7,369	11,261	3,132,810
1812–13	616,000	250	100	..	122,700	3,660	19,036	1,453,000
1813–14 / 1814–15	..	430	..	..	76,400	..	1,100	451,500
1815–16	1,922,000	1,508	80	450	140,300	550	2,500	2,527,500
1816–17	4,545,000	2,570	488	998	64,600	..	7,400	5,609,600
1817–18	5,601,000	1,601	448	3,240	84,200	..	15,825	7,076,828
1818–19	7,369,000	1,363	807	9,297	163,000	601	14,874	9,867,208
1819–20	6,259,300	659	180	5,052	76,600	19,354	10,073	8,185,800
1820–1	2,569,500	2,016	..	3,938	44,500	3,782	6,005	4,035,000
1821–2	5,125,000	2,466	383	4,324	177,300	3,660	26,822	8,199,743
1822–3	6,292,840	5,144	..	2,859	80,000	888	20,653	8,339,389
1823–4	4,096,000	427	140	8,210	168,000	1,070	8,404	6,315,127
1824–5	6,524,000	6,039	411	6,452	100,800	1,575	7,438	8,962,045
1825–6	5,725,200	3,357	..	3,738	65,800	..	3,097	7,776,301
1826–7	1,841,168	2,404	56	2,815	73,300	1,020	6,680	4,243,617
1827–8	2,640,300	1,232	..	8,666	81,500	1,307	13,265	6,238,788
1828–9	731,200	1,754	1,256½	6,374	82,000	..	18,206	4,030,865

EXPORTS BY AMERICAN VESSELS AT CANTON, 1804–28

Year.	Ships.		Tea.	Cassia.	Woven Silks.	Sewing Silk.	Raw Silk.	Sugar and Candy.	Nankeens.	Total Value.
	No.	Tons.	Chests.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Dollars.
1804–5	34	10,159	96,000	4,143	9,385	..	..	1,900	2,648,000	3,842,000
1805–6	42	12,480	122,800	3,135	24,960	..	..	124	2,808,000	5,127,000
1806–7	37	11,268	118,400	1,447	17,680	..	..	885	1,764,000	4,294,000
1807–8	33	8,805	70,600	2,088	20,400	..	..	1,690	2,922,000	3,476,000
1808–9	8	2,215	19,500	627	9,132	..	..	..	345,000	808,000
1809–10	37	12,512	116,200	3,884	53,273	144	..	1,026	3,769,000	5,715,000
1810–11	16	4,748	32,600	2,061	77,710	178	..	..	2,048,000	2,973,000
1811–12	25	7,406	42,700	2,653	110,521	195	..	..	425,500	2,771,000
1812–13	8	1,816	17,900	675	12,670	36	..	540	201,000	620,000
1813–14 / 1814–15	9	2,854	18,300	539	6,470	43	..	..	105,000	572,000
1815–16	30	10,208	95,500	3,345	115,939	361	..	918	640,000	4,220,000
1816–17	38	13,096	117,400	5,244	114,147	329	..	8,350	1,794,000	5,703,000
1817–18	39	14,325	121,300	2,597	201,536	576	170	12,517	1,469,000	6,777,000
1818–19	47	16,377	154,000	5,038	291,396	823	37	42,662	2,577,000	9,057,107
1819–20	43	15,445	131,300	2,912	270,573	429	560	49,759	3,135,700	8,173,000
1820–1	26	8,663	99,400	3,192	137,334	250	..	2,664	685,000	4,088,000
1821–2	45	15,597	116,800	5,678	335,114	268	20	15,499	1,776,700	7,058,741
1822–3	40	14,557	138,900	8,630	380,400	88	70	6,421	1,139,207	7,523,492
1823–4	34	13,069	127,200	7,972	215,638	47	..	500	252,200	5,677,149
1824–5	43	16,062	177,200	9,388	372,167	51½	95	3,749	536,000	8,501,119
1825–6	42	16,431	163,600	10,116	246,006	41	434	22,240	721,000	8,752,562
1826–7	26	9,566	107,500	4,329	144,988	27	260	4,514	308,725	4,373,891
1827–8	29	12,090	119,000	6,729	421,136	1,642	267	2,100	619,182	6,559,925
1828–9	..	8,613	89,400	2,906	211,703	152	68	2,243	392,500	4,552,200

EXPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES TO CANTON

From the fiscal year ending June 30, 1805, to June 30, 1833. Taken from K. S. Latourette, *History of the Early Relations between the United States and China, 1784–1844,* following Timothy Pitkin, *Statistical View of the Commerce of the U.S.A.*

Year ended June 30th.	*Specie.*	*Goods.*	*Year ended June 30th*	*Specie.*	*Bills on England.*	*Goods.*
	Dollars.	Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
1805	2,902,000	2,653,818	1819	7,414,000	200,000	2,603,151
1806	4,176,000	1,150,358	1820	6,297,000	..	1,888,000
1807	2,895,000	982,362	1821	2,995,000	..	2,397,795
1808	3,032,000	908,090	1822	5,125,000	..	3,067,795
1809	70,000	409,850	1823	6,292,840	..	2,046,549
1810	4,723,000	1,020,600	1824	4,096,000	..	2,364,000
1811	2,330,000	568,800	1825	6,524,500	..	2,437,525
1812	1,875,000	1,257,810	1826	5,725,200	..	2,056,101
1813	616,000	837,000	1827	1,841,168	400,000	2,032,449
1814 }	..	451,000	1828	2,640,300	300,000	2,454,617
1815 }			1829	740,900	657,000	2,667,770
1816	1,922,000	605,000	1830	1,123,644	423,656	2,793,982
1817	4,545,000	1,055,600	1831	183,655	1,168,500	2,871,321
1818	5,601,000	1,475,828	1832	2,480,871	667,252	2,383,684
			1833	682,519	4,772,516	2,907,936

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS INTO THE TREASURY AT CANTON, 1775–1834

The amounts are net, after deducting sums set off.
The season is from spring of year named to following spring.

Season.	Carry over.	From sale of goods imported.			Silver brought in ships.	Bills, certificates, bonds, &c.	Total net assets.	Investment.
		English.	Asiatic.	Total.				
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels	Taels.
1775	+ 340,395	369,839	37,444	407,283	169,920	407,435	1,324,933	1,210,851
1776	+ 114,082	273,482	146,439	419,921	429,003	166,332	1,129,338	1,017,460
1777	+ 111,878	340,849	83,560	424,409	230,400	1,022,147	1,788,834	1,692,507
1778	+ 96,327	384,756	..	384,756	90,720	767,298	1,339,101	1,181,155
1779	+ 157,946	90,788	135,576	226,364	..	1,537,996	1,922,306	1,022,694
1780	+ 975,239	433,657	45,522	479,179	..	1,569,272	3,023,690	2,180,901
1781	+ 842,789	266,136	129,162	395,298	..	1,107,418	2,345,505	1,663,159
1782	+ 682,346	320,000	..	320,000	..	517,316	1,519,662	828,203
1783	+ 691,459	769,281	200,362	969,643	8,640	696,993	2,366,735	2,152,614
1784	+ 214,121	653,083	40,362	693,445	..	566,168	1,473,734	1,853,209
1785	— 222,766	661,847	25,432	687,279	..	1,602,665	2,067,178	2,965,000
1786	— 804,307	877,585	98,433	976,018	2,062,080	1,684,344	3,918,135	4,500,000
1787	— 914,308	741,823	103,670	845,493	1,912,320	2,875,923	4,719,428	5,258,676
1788	— 415,720	1,232,876	89,600	1,322,476	2,094,878	2,498,464	5,500,098	4,566,653
1789	+ 356,631	1,130,874	164,925	1,295,799	1,321,920	1,745,470	4,719,820	4,433,431
1790	+ 223,328	1,621,201	211,672	1,832,873	2,106,041	2,076,140	6,238,382	4,668,136
1791	+1,460,718	1,851,491	87,104	1,938,595	172,800	1,835,982	5,408,095	3,349,281
1792	+2,063,818	1,901,683	136,456	2,038,139	518,400	1,843,160	6,463,517	3,535,407
1793	+2,946,341	2,062,030	88,100	2,150,130	..	1,386,343	6,482,814	3,838,868
1794	+2,704,544	2,152,678	19,219	2,171,897	..	1,419,338	6,295,779	4,704,488
1795	+1,521,875	1,879,945	89,342	1,969,287	..	1,415,051	4,906,213	3,508,839
1796	+ 804,271	2,030,491	69,858	2,100,349	120,960	1,649,346	4,674,926	6,248,940
1797	—1,917,188	1,533,244	133,045	1,666,289	626,570	2,710,189	3,085,860	5,505,975
1798	—2,810,798	1,524,046	..	1,524,046	1,321,984	2,497,576	2,532,808	2,911,251
1799	— 601,235	2,382,322	162,817	2,545,139	1,623,171	2,297,424	5,864,499	4,016,113
1800	+2,324,633	2,360,701	554,667	2,915,368	440,103	2,383,030	8,063,134	4,282,000
1801	+2,669,274	2,761,197	316,431	3,077,628	81,370	1,179,029	7,007,301	6,073,586
1802	+ 242,407	3,056,480	92,538	3,149,018	..	2,108,457	5,499,882	5,988,263

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS INTO THE TREASURY AT CANTON, 1775–1834 (*continued*)

Season.	Carry over.	From sale of goods imported.			Silver brought in ships.	Bills, certificates, bonds, &c.	Total net assets.	Investment.
		English.	Asiatic.	Total.				
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
1803 . .	— 570,287	2,983,008	54,891	3,037,899	1,437,934	1,927,344	5,832,890	6,000,000
1804 . .	+ 61,104	3,778,950	56,052	3,835,002	830,266	2,469,061	7,195,433	6,272,874
1805 . .	+ 988,339	3,055,430	153,705	3,209,135	..	3,054,837	7,252,311	5,197,342
1806 . .	+1,929,459	3,417,902	620,668	4,038,570	..	2,966,164	8,934,193	5,473,406
1807 . .	+3,325,473	3,151,340	655,812	3,807,152	..	(—131,288)	7,001,337	3,807,863
1808 . .	+3,444,384	3,923,461	787,859	4,711,320	..	61,007	8,216,711	4,017,258
1809 . .	+3,919,819	3,198,137	392,734	3,590,871	..	47,348	7,558,038	3,888,167
1810 . .	+3,303,617	3,200,000	645,497	3,845,497	..	926,976	8,076,090	4,282,816
1811 . .	+2,763,373	2,751,554	792,570	3,544,124	..	1,409,970	7,717,467	5,000,000
1812 . .	+2,017,454	2,732,906	1,232,566	3,965,472	..	2,054,203	8,037,139	6,425,608
1813 . .	+1,647,148	3,085,351	1,286,322	4,371,673	..	1,707,181	7,726,002	5,641,388
1814 . .	+1,809,715	2,814,036	892,620	3,706,656	..	2,658,552	8,174,923	5,931,589
1815 . .	+2,034,877	2,144,773	1,570,141	3,714,914	1,094,688	3,911,717	10,756,196	6,751,295
1816 . .	+2,442,176	2,520,345	1,014,892	3,535,237	2,561,103	1,468,804	10,007,320	6,426,148
1817 . .	+3,639,619	2,438,992	1,193,510	3,632,502	..	497,742	7,769,863	4,601,124
1818 . .	+3,281,859	2,035,937	1,084,459	3,120,396	..	416,056	6,818,311	4,151,514
1819 . .	+2,354,591	1,736,650	1,235,623	2,972,273	..	487,305	5,814,169	5,786,224
1820 . .	+ 446,474	2,381,234	1,202,520	3,583,754	1,982,941	1,668,849	7,682,018	6,118,679
1821 . .	+1,403,417	2,057,344	1,452,987	3,510,331	..	2,152,127	7,065,875	5,652,108
1822 . .	+1,529,706	1,055,553	1,513,069	2,568,622	..	2,387,074	6,485,402	5,850,384
1823 . .	— 506,724	2,312,848	1,417,178	3,730,026	689,197	2,239,723	6,151,222	6,245,057
1824 . .	+ 23,625	2,200,371	1,419,912	3,620,283	..	3,197,986	6,841,894	5,788,652
1825 . .	+1,203,441	2,776,368	1,415,462	4,191,830	..	1,579,767	6,974,038	5,322,125
1826 . .	+1,587,681	2,733,776	1,493,468	4,227,244	..	2,935,547	8,750,472	7,456,727
1827 . .	+1,694,670	1,576,251	1,677,398	3,253,649	..	2,142,073	7,090,392	6,385,567
1828 . .	+ 396,645	2,168,988	1,388,384	3,557,372	..	2,466,060	6,420,077	5,778,728
1829 . .	+1,329,821	1,957,327	1,271,315	3,228,642	..	1,355,743	5,914,206	5,629,015
1830 . .	+ 212,388	1,930,979	1,319,182	3,250,161	..	3,311,298	6,773,847	5,729,705
1831 . .	— 403,629	1,871,543	783,582	2,655,125	..	3,252,285	5,503,781	5,819,383
1832 . .	— 108,203	1,878,897	1,029,369	2,908,266	..	2,427,432	5,227,495	6,025,100
1833 . .	— 750,014	2,515,246	1,842,407	4,357,653	..	3,848,579	7,456,218	5,521,043
1834 . .	+ 202,416	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

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ABBREVIATIONS

Amer. = American
Ch. = Chinese
Eng. = English, England
E.I.C. = English East India Company
incl. = including, included
mercht. = merchant
Port. = Portuguese
ref. = referred to, reference to
Sel. Com. = Select Committee
sup. = supercargo(es)

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